

STUDENT AT PLU: Ericksen started at Pacific Lutheran University in 1963 and graduated in 1967. He was involved in student government. Ericksen was the freshman class president and executive vice president of the student body. He was involved in Evergreen court and active in dorm activities like Homecoming. Ericksen was the president of Evergreen for one year. He also was involved with baseball and other intramural sports.

IMPRESSIONS OF DR. MORTVEDT: Mortvedt was a very serious but good man. He was a welcome relief from past presidents. Ericksen's first year was the first year dancing was allowed on campus. Mortvedt had strong academic credentials and was not a pietist. Ericksen was impressed with Mortvedt and thought he was a good president.

CHANGES ON CAMPUS: Allowing dancing on campus was one major change that Mortvedt made. He began to make Pacific Lutheran University a high level institution and challenged students academically.

IMPRESSIONS OF MORTVEDT: Mortvedt told Pacific Lutheran University students about his experiences as an undergraduate. He earned his PhD at Harvard in literature and taught at St. Olaf where Ericksen's father took a class from Mortvedt. As an undergraduate, Mortvedt would not fall behind because every Thursday night he would catch up. This story impacted the students, including Ericksen. Mortvedt was a polished speaker. He also did not want to offend people who liked Eastvold. He tied together academics and religion to make.

STUDENT PROTEST: There were no protests at Pacific Lutheran University until after 1967. Ericksen thinks Mortvedt had a hard time dealing with the changes of the late 1960s. Protests came very slow to Pacific Lutheran University. It was not until 1970 that many changes and protests took place at Pacific Lutheran University.

RETIREMENT: Ericksen's brother graduated in 1970 and worked in the Tides Tavern in Gig Harbor. Mortvedt lived in Gig Harbor and let Ericksen's brother know that he did not think drinking was good.

CLOSING THOUGHTS: The library was named after President Mortvedt. He was a well educated man who stabilized the university. After he retired he moved to the Tacoma Lutheran Home and looked after his wife. Mortvedt was a quiet person, but can take command of the room when needed.