

## Charles E. Thon

### GREENVILLE -

Charles Edward Thomas, 92, writer and naval officer, died at the National Health Care Center.



Services were held at Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville on Monday, Nov. 13, with burial at St. Stephen's in Ridgeway on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

Born in Ridgeway, on Nov. 17, 1903, Mr. Thomas was the son of the late Rosa Woodruff Taft and Robert Charlton Thomas.

Following graduation from Sewanee, he was assistant secretary of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. After a trip through pre-war Europe, he published "European Universities," and later served as the first executive director of the Episcopal Church Society for College Work. Soon after Pearl Harbor, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy serving in the Pacific. After the war, he was vice-president of Resort Airlines and later returned to Sewanee as director of admissions. Recalled to active duty with the Navy during the Korean action, he retired as a Commander. He again returned to Sewanee as commissioner of buildings and lands. Following retirement, he was widely published in such magazines as *Names In South Carolina* and *Sandlapper*.

Thomas served as secretary of the Board of Regents of The University of the South, and as trustee of Saint Mary's College in Raleigh, N.C. He also served as historiographer and registrar



of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina and as historiographer of Christ Church in Greenville, where the Thomas Library is named for him. He served as an advisory member and founder of both the Fairfield and Greenville County historical societies. In 1976, he was awarded membership in the Sigma Nu Hall of Honor. He was a friend of The Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville.

Survivors include three sisters, Eleanor McCullough of Greenville, Henrietta Sanders of Columbia and Rosa White of Winnsboro; and a sister-in-law, Laura Thomas of Ridgeway.

Memorials may be made to any of the institutions that were a part of Mr. Thomas' life.