

DOCTOR JEROME P. KEUPER

CLASS 101-44

As a newly commissioned Second Lieutenant, Dr. Keuper served as an Intelligence Officer during World War II in China and Burma. Upon his return to the United States, he left active service and earned degrees at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University, as well as a doctoral degree in nuclear physics from the University of Virginia.

He was a physicist at the Remington Arms Plant in Bridgeport, Connecticut and moved to the Florida Space Coast in 1958 as Chief Scientist in RCA's System Analysis Group, at what is now the Kennedy Space Center.

Dr. Keuper founded Florida Institute of Technology and was its first president from 1958 to 1986. When the small technological institute opened in 1958, a total of 247 students were signed up for the first classes. Today the university enrolls more than 4.400 students. In 1997, Dr. Keuper published "Chinese 1000", a comprehensive dictionary of colloquial and idiomatic Mandarin Chinese expressions, a product of 50 years of study.

During his distinguished career, Dr. Keuper served as Chairman of the Council of Presidents of the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities, Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Jacksonville Branch, and president of the International Palm Society. He was also a member of the advisory boards of the National Energy Foundation and Institute of International Education. He was awarded the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal of Honor in 2000.