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To cite this article: Todd Sandler (2024) Obituary: Martin C. McGuire, Defence and Peace Economics, 35:7, 791-791, DOI: [10.1080/10242694.2024.2399084](https://doi.org/10.1080/10242694.2024.2399084)

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10242694.2024.2399084>



Published online: 08 Sep 2024.



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Obituary: Martin C. McGuire

On 26 February 2024, Martin C. McGuire died after a short illness; he was 90. Marty was a preeminent defense economist whose work, along with Charles J. Hitch, Roland N. McKean, Thomas Schelling, and Kenneth Boulding, led to the formation of the field of defense economics. Marty held the inaugural Clifford S. Heinz Chair in the Economics of Public Policy and Peace at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) from 1992 until his retirement. At the time of his passing, he was professor emeritus at UCI.

Marty received an appointment to the US Military Academy in West Point, NY in 1951 where he studied engineering, graduating with distinction in 1955. Later in 1958 as a Rhodes Scholar, he attended Oxford University, UK, where he studied philosophy, politics, and economics. He always had a love for philosophy and published articles in some top philosophy journals, something that he was proud of. Marty served in the US Army and achieved the rank of Captain in 1961; he received the Army Commendation Medal in 1962. He earned his doctorate in economics from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1963.

Marty spent most of his academic career in the Department of Economics at the University of Maryland, College Park, until 1992, where he specialized in the study of public economics, public choice, and defense economics. He made fundamental theoretical contributions to the study of clubs, groups, political jurisdictions, and the private provision of public goods with important articles appearing in the *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Public Choice*, and elsewhere. In defense economics, he contributed seminal articles to the study of intelligence, deterrence, alliances, and arms races. Although he never lost sight of policy and empirical relevance, his written work was primarily theoretical in nature. He was a master of graphical presentations, which is sadly becoming a lost art in economics.

Marty was a member of the editorial board of *Defence and Peace Economics (DPE)* (formerly *Defence Economics*) from the journal's inception in 1990 until his death. His article, 'Mixed Public-Private Benefit and Public-Good Supply with Application to the NATO Alliance,' appeared in the inaugural issue of *Defence Economics*. He edited one special issues of *DPE* in 2007, devoted to honoring the contributions of Jack Hirshleifer.

I first met Marty at a Summer Institute on Conflict and International Security that I hosted at the University of Wyoming during July 8-10, 1981, attended by Thomas Schelling, Raymond Dacey, Michael Intriligator, William Riker, and others. Over the next 43 years, Marty and I remained good friends. As such, we read and commented on one another's papers and discussed trends in the study of defense economics. I especially admired the way he would conceptualize a complex problem by identifying the essential drivers. I learned much from his vast written works on a wide variety of topics in public and defense economics. One thing that I regret is that we never co-authored a paper together. His passing is a tremendous loss for economics, and defense economics in particular. Marty will be greatly missed.

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