

stopped to compare notes and smoke cigarettes. After witnessing a strafing by Gruman Avenger airplanes, the group went to survey the damage when it came under fire. Bushemi received shrapnel wounds in his left cheek, neck, and left leg. Although bleeding profusely, Bushemi joked with his companions and inquired about others also injured in the shelling before he was transported off the island. “The Navy doctors had to give him ether so they could tie some severed arteries which had caused him such serious blood loss from his neck wound,” said Miller, “and it was after the anesthetic was administered that Johnny passed away—about 5:50 p.m.”

Family and friends held a memorial service for the fallen photographer in Gary on March 3, 1944. Bushemi's remains did not make it home for burial at Mount Mercy Cemetery until November 1947.

RAY E. BOOMHOWER

For Further Reading

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Selected photographs by John A. Bushemi are in the collection of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Butler, Ovid

February 7, 1801–July 12, 1881

Lawyer, abolitionist, journalist, land developer, and founder of Butler University.

Without Ovid Butler, there would be no Butler University. The history of the man and the university are intimately and inextricably entwined. Without Butler's vision, leadership, and financial support, the university may not have come into being, or survived its early years. Butler University today is a private, not-for-profit, comprehensive university located in Indianapolis, Indiana, offering more than sixty-five majors from six colleges to four thousand students.

Ovid Butler was born in Augusta, New York. In 1817, the year after Indiana gained statehood and Butler turned seventeen, his family moved to Geneva in Jennings County. He attended common

schools, but for the most part was self-educated. Between 1819 and 1825, he taught school, clerked in a store, and read law. Butler attended Vernon Seminary and lived with William Avery Bullock, a lawyer who gave him his first legal instruction.

In *The Bench and Bar of Indiana*, Butler is described as “a man of medium height, sturdy form, with a pleasant face, a very bright eye, and an expression of intelligence and kindness not to be forgotten.” He was a man of “infinite patience and labor in the practice of the law, which for his firm was the most lucrative in the state.” Politically he was “as independent in social, political, and religious affairs as any man could be.” He liberally devoted his time, labors, and money “to further his political projects and sentiments. He largely endowed Butler University and put it into active operation.”

In 1825 Butler moved to Shelbyville, Shelby County, Indiana, where he taught school and studied then practiced law. He was the first lawyer admitted to the bar in Shelby County. The Shelbyville Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was organized in his home. Butler ran for the state legislature and for county clerk but he was defeated for both offices because of his strong abolitionist beliefs. Butler married Cordelia Cole in 1827. They had three children who survived to adulthood; three more did not survive infancy.

When Butler moved his family to Indianapolis in 1836, his father, Chauncy, moved with them and became the preacher at Central Christian Church. Cordelia died in 1838. Two years later Butler married Elizabeth Anne Elgin, a widow, and they had seven children, one dying in infancy. Three of his children—Demia, Scot, and Chauncy—went on to play important roles in the history of Butler University.

Soon after moving to Indianapolis, Butler established a law practice with CALVIN FLETCHER, Simon Yandes, and Horatio C. Newcomb. Fletcher and Butler had one of the largest, most respected, and most lucrative practices in central Indiana. In 1847 Butler went through a life-threatening illness that prompted his retirement from the law. He believed that God had spared his life to do other work, and it was possible he took the founding of the new university as that work.

In 1846 Butler had bought land just north of the old Mile Square in Indianapolis at what is now Park Avenue and Thirteenth Street. He built

a house and moved there in 1849, calling it Forest Home. Butler developed the neighborhood known as College Corner south of his home; the land to the northeast became the site of North Western Christian University.

In 1847 Butler took leadership of a Disciples of Christ proposal to found an institution of higher learning in Indiana. The closest Disciples school was Bethany College in Virginia (later West Virginia). Virginia was a slave-holding state, and Butler summed up the importance of the antislavery issue as the primary motivator in creating a new university as “an institution of learning of the highest class upon free soil, in which their children and the youth of the Northwest might receive a liberal and Christian education, removed, as far as practicable, from the pernicious influences of slavery.”

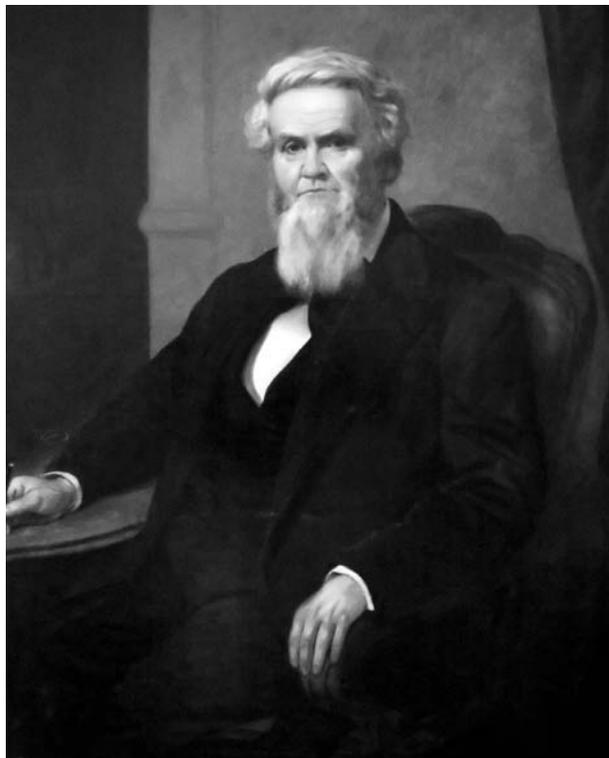
In 1850 the charter Butler wrote to create NWCU was approved by the Indiana General Assembly. He offered twenty acres of his property at what is now Thirteenth Street and College Avenue. The university opened its doors on November 1, 1855, with two professors and twenty students, including several who had been expelled from Bethany College for their abolitionist beliefs. From the first day, the school admitted women and students of color, as well as students of any or no religious background, since the university was nonsectarian from its founding. NWCU was the first college in Indiana to admit women on an equal basis with men, and the second in the United States. Butler’s daughter, Demia, was the first female to graduate from the school in the full four-year curriculum. After her untimely death in 1867, her father endowed the Demia Butler Chair in English Literature in 1869, the first endowed chair in the country created for a female professor. Catharine Merrill, the daughter of Civil War general Samuel Merrill, first held the chair, becoming the second woman to be named a professor in the United States.

Butler’s advocacy of abolition and women’s rights is clear in the draft of an essay titled “Woman’s Rights,” likely created after the end of the Civil War. He wrote of his desire “that the Institution of the North Western Christian University occupy a position in the front ranks of human progress and Christian civilization as the Experiment and Advocate of the common rights of humanity without distinction on account of

sex, race or color.” He was adamant about “absolute equity before God and before the Law of the individual members of the human family.” He said that “equality of rights and duties, so far as race or color is concerned has after a long struggle and a fierce and bloody war finally obtained recognition in our National Constitution.” However, he acknowledged that “there is still a controversy about its applicability where sex is concerned.”

While Butler was busy helping to found the new university, he was also dabbling in politics. A dedicated abolitionist, Butler helped to organize the Free-Soil Party, which opposed the extension of slavery into the territories. He established several Free-Soil and antislavery newspapers in Indianapolis and Cincinnati. The Free-Soil Party nationally merged with the Republican Party in 1852, and in 1854 Butler called a meeting at the Indiana Statehouse that resulted in the creation of the Indiana Republican Party, the party of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

As president of the board from 1852 to 1871 and chancellor from 1871 to 1881, he saw the new university through its founding, its first years of operation, and the move to a new campus in the Irvington neighborhood of Indianapolis in 1875. In 1877 the university was renamed Butler University over the protests of its main founder, leader,



Ovid Butler

and benefactor. Ovid disliked ostentation, but the board felt strongly about the honor, and persisted.

Butler died at his beloved Forest Home and is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, another project he helped to develop. The cemetery is less than a mile south of the current Fairview Campus of Butler University. On the anniversary of his death, the university's board of directors declared February 7, Butler's birthday, would become Founder's Day. On the first observance of that date, Butler's son, Scot, presented to the university a life-size portrait of his father. Also on that occasion, General John Coburn, prominent Indianapolis lawyer and judge, gave an address praising Butler's mark on the school. He said: "His ambition was to make this institution as liberal, as thorough, and as beneficent as any one anywhere. . . . He believed in the equal rights of men and women; that all should be free; that all should be educated alike. . . . He put his faith and creed in the charter of the University, and upon these stones he builded."

SALLY CHILDS-HELTON

For Further Review

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Cadle, E. Howard

August 25, 1884–December 20, 1942

Radio evangelist and founder of Cadle Tabernacle.

E. Howard Cadle famously experienced a conversion to Christianity after he was diagnosed with a terminal illness. When he regained his health he dedicated his life to converting others. He built the Cadle Tabernacle in Indianapolis in honor of his mother and used it as a center to promote Christianity.

Cadle found his life's calling through a much-publicized redemption. His epiphany changed his life and eventually moved tens of thousands to become his followers when he published his story in an autobiography, *How I Came Back*. Born in 1884 in Fredericksburg, Indiana, Cadle, in his early adult years, became a gambler and a drunk. He married at nineteen, temporarily quashing his vices, but eventually returned to a life of drinking, gambling, and adultery. He entered the slot machine business and became known as "The Slot Machine King." This hard living brought him to a health crisis and in 1914 he was diagnosed with Bright's Disease and given only six months to live. Cadle's mother prayed long and hard for his life and, when it became apparent that he would live, he attributed his survival to his mother's prayers, and his conversion to Christianity.



Exterior view of the Cadle Tabernacle in Indianapolis, 1923.