

CARL RUGGLES, musician and composer.

Your ancestry tracing to the sixteenth century Massachusetts Bay Colony amply explains your ruggedness and versatility. Studying at Harvard as did your forebears two centuries earlier, your boyhood interest in sailing later engaged you in studying marine architecture at M.I.T. Your early career as a musician and instrumentalist gave sound foundation for your later career as a conductor and composer. For nigh fifty years your music received little recognition in your native land, although it has been frequently heard abroad. Now recognized for your compositions, as an artist and painter as well as musician, you have truly earned the attribution "A twentieth century Leonardo."

In your ninetieth year, tributes to you mount with increasing crescendo: "first American atonalist," "first unicorn in American music" "fresh with hearty challenge of an inexhaustible glow," "a rugged individualist" proclaiming "an authentic attitude characteristic of twentieth century America in musical terms," and singing "...of man's infinite potentialities in freedom of thought and action." You are a man of mountains as well as a man of angels. To you "Sun-treader, life and light be thine forever!"

Honoris Causa, DOCTOR OF MUSIC