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## Wheeler, Ray, Collection, 1963-1979

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## Wheeler, Ray, Collection, MS 119

### Ray Wheeler Collection

<b>Collection Number</b>	MS 119
<b>Title</b>	The Ray Wheeler Collection
<b>Name and Location of Repository</b>	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
<b>Dates</b>	1963 – 1979
<b>Collection Size</b>	1 linear foot
<b>Creator</b>	Ray Wheeler. Wheeler donated this collection May 1985.

**Scope and Content** Ray Wheeler was a poet, playwright, and author of short stories and novels. The materials in this collection pertain to Wheeler’s relationship with James Tate, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, and alumnus of Pittsburg State University. This includes correspondence, biographical articles, clippings, programs, poems, manuscripts, publicity material, photographs, and sketches.

**Access Restrictions** This collection is open for access

**Languages** English

**Biographical Note** L. Ray Wheeler was born in Kansas City, Kansas on June 24, 1940. He received his bachelor’s degree from Kansas State College of Pittsburg (now Pittsburg State University) in 1963, and his Ph.D from the University of North Dakota. Wheeler taught composition, philosophy, and creative writing at Dickinson Sate College (now University) in Dickinson, North Dakota for 46 years. Dr. Wheeler passed away in Dickinson, North Dakota on November 27, 2018.

**Series** The collection is divided into eight series: **Correspondence, Biographical; Clippings; Programs; Poems by James Tate; Manuscripts by James Tate; Publicity for James Tate; and Photographs and Drawings.** All of the series are arranged chronologically.

The **Correspondence** Series includes letters from Tate to Wheeler.

The **Biographical** series consists of a brief biography on Tate, and two short biographies on Douglass Mellor and Dale Reipe.

The **Clipping** series contains biographical articles over Tate and his works.

The **Programs** series contains two programs for two of Wheeler’s plays.

The **Poems by James Tate** series consists of Tate’s poetry.

The **Manuscripts by James Tate** series contains two rough drafts for “A Nice Day for No Parade.”

The **Publicity for James Tate** Series consists of an advertisement for a reading and an interview he gave for *The Matrix*.

## Wheeler, Ray, Collection, MS 119

The **Photographs and Drawings** series contains a photograph of James Tate, a photograph of downtown Pittsburg, and several sketches of Tate.

### Folder List

#### Correspondence

- f. 1 1963-1964
- f. 2 1965
- f. 3 1966
- f. 4 1966
- f. 5 1967
- f. 6 1968-1969
- f. 7 1970-1973
- f. 8 1974
- f. 9 1975-1979

#### Biographical

- f. 10 Biography of James Tate  
Biography of Douglass Mellor and Dale Reipe

#### Clippings

- f. 11 1963-1967

#### Programs

- f. 12 "Prairie Humoresque" (undated)  
"Dakota III" (undated)

#### Poems by James Tate

- f. 13 1965-1967
- f. 14 Undated
- f. 15 Undated

#### Manuscript by James Tate

- f. 16 Rough draft of "A Nice Day for No Parade" (2x)

#### Publicity for James Tate

- f. 17 Public Reading (1966)  
Interview of Tate for *The Matrix* (1967)

#### Photographs and Drawings

- f. 18 Photograph of James Tate  
Photograph of downtown Pittsburg by Bruce Daniel  
Sketches of James Tate