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For Release on Receipt

The 13th graduating class of Indiana University at South Bend was urged Tuesday to consider the number 13 an omen of "all manner of happy things in the years ahead."

Chancellor Lester M. Wolfson, after a whimsical reference to the fact that "my ever-thoughtful mother managed to have me born on the 13th," advised members of the Class of 1979 to relegate notions about good or ill luck "to the dust-bin of superstitions from which sound education rescues us.

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, / But in ourselves....," he quoted from Shakespeare's play "Julius Caesar." He said he hoped that a college education persuaded the graduates "that in large measure each person controls his or her own destiny, that the world lies out there still wondrously various and new, alive with opportunity for our continuing instruction and delight."

Indiana University President John W. Ryan, also addressing the IUSB graduates in ceremonies Tuesday evening in South Bend Century Center, advised his listeners not to consider their educations at an end.

"Don't ever forget that the tide of new knowledge continues to flow," said Ryan. "You must continue to read. You must continue to listen. You must continue to study and learn."

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Degrees were conferred at the Century Center exercises on 764 candidates, some of whom will not complete their studies until the end of the summer. Nearly 350 of the degree candidates attended the ceremonies.

During a solemn moment in the rites, Chancellor Wolfson noted "the grievous death this past weekend of Professor George Wing, with whom many of you have studied business and economics." Dr. Wing, an IUSB faculty member on leave as a troubleshooter for the Agency for International Development (AID), died Saturday morning.

"Let these exercises," said Wolfson, "honor (Professor Wing) as well as you. Let his unremitting energy and his commitment to both local and world-wide good causes, remain green in our memories always."

The degree conferral included 280 master's degrees, 398 bachelor's degrees and 86 two-year associate degrees and certificates. Each Indiana University campus holds a single commencement exercise annually for January, May and August graduates.