

Submitted

J.B. Rhine, left, conducts a test while a professor at Duke University. It was at Duke the Marshallville native introduced the term parapsychology and began his research, believing "good groundwork should be laid in the lab so that the scientific community might take parapsychology seriously."

makes his life's work researching the incomprehensible? Sally Feather, one of Rhine's four children, wrote that her father was a kind man and their home life was exciting, with students and colleagues always visiting, but traditional. She recalled her father saying, "If you are unconventional in one area of your life, you had better try to be conventional in all other areas."

True to the nature of

his research, Rhine's work didn't stop with his 1980 death. The FRNM, renamed the Rhine Research Center on the centenary of his birth, remains a world leader in parapsychology research. His Parapsychological Association is still vital, and his "Journal of Parapsychology" is still in publication.

Rhine left this world confident he had built a body of evidence for the paranormal. Whether one accepts his findings or not, he was able to reposition psychic phenomena from the realm of the cerie to the lab.

While the internet brims with information on Rhine, who is buried in Durham, North Carolina, he seems to have largely been forgotten locally — until now. At this 40th anniversary of his death, is it farfetched to wonder if this profile might have been prompted from beyond the grave?