MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

Murray Kaplan

Reid G. Palmer

Wilbert A. Russell

Dorothy Hubbard Schwieder

Hideo “Tachi” Tachibana

Donald E. Voelker

Iowa State University Faculty Senate
December 9, 2014
We are saddened by the news that Murray Kaplan, FSHN Professor Emeritus, passed away on June 26, 2014 at his home in Florida. Dr. Kaplan was an academic and research leader in our department for many years and served as an interim director of the Center for Designing Foods to Improve Nutrition. Dr. Kaplan’s research program and interests are depicted in the two murals hanging in the 1121 conference room in HNSB which were commissioned at the time of his retirement. Dr. Kaplan is survived by his wife Helene (7907 Sundial Harbor Point, Lake Worth, FL 33467) and daughters Alissa and Cheryl and their families. Donations may be sent to the Murray Kaplan Fund for Biology, The Graduate Center Foundation, Inc., City University of New York, 365 Fifth Ave., Suite 8204, New York, N.Y. 10016. The fund supports young researchers.
Dr. Reid Griffith Palmer, Ph.D., 73, passed away Sunday, August 17, 2014 at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames, after fighting a courageous battle with cancer and an incurable infection. 'Reid', as his wife, friends, colleagues and students affectionately called him, was born June 21, 1941 to Jasper and Fern (Ernsthauen) Palmer in Pemberville, Ohio. He has one living sister Dedra (Palmer) Strohl and brother-in-law Ed of Fostoria, Ohio. Reid married his loving wife Nuray (Sahin) of almost 14 years in Ankara, Turkey where he met her on one of his many professional trips.

Reid received his B.S.A. at the University of Toronto, Canada (Ontario Agriculture College) in 1963, an M.S. from the University of Illinois in 1965, and a Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1970. He became a USDA Research Geneticist at Iowa State University, Ames in 1970 and a USDA-ARS-CICGR Collaborator and Assistant Professor associated with the Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University in 1973, and rose through the academic ranks to professor. His official title before retirement was USDA Research Geneticist and Professor of Agronomy and Genetics, Development and Cell Biology. He officially retired from ARS-USDA in 2012 but remained professionally active as an Affiliate Professor in the Department of Agronomy until his death. Reid's areas of expertise were cytogenetics and plant breeding of soybeans. His research involved two primary objectives: the identification, characterization, and utilization of fertility/sterility mutants in a phenotypic recurrent selection system with insect-mediated cross-pollination to increase hybrid seed production; and the identification and characterization of mutable loci with emphasis on genetic studies of germinal revertants. He developed collaborations with many fellow researchers within Iowa State University, the United States and abroad because of his excellent reputation in these areas. These involvements provided Reid with innumerable opportunities to travel worldwide to carry out his research and present his findings (277 abstracts, 18 Symposia and Proceedings and 149 technical Newsletter Articles) at universities and private companies, as well as state, national and international conferences. His studies were published in over 200 research articles and invited book chapters. His research was supported by numerous private, state, and federal grants. He served as associate editor or on the editorial board of 11 scientific journals in his field and reviewed countless manuscripts for 51 scientific journals and other media. One of Reid's major strengths and loves was mentoring of many undergraduate and 44 graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and visiting scientists, and he served on numerous graduate committees at ISU and eight other domestic and foreign universities. He was dedicated to training and mentoring them, many of whom have become leaders in the same or allied fields in academia, private industry and government. He enjoyed the laboratory part of his research but he really loved being outside in
his soybean fields planting, making delicate crosses and harvesting the results of his and his students’ labors. His experimental plots spread well beyond Iowa.

Reid received prestigious recognitions for his professional activities over the years including being a member of 11 professional and honorary societies and a recipient of: the Raymond and Mary Baker Agronomy Excellence Award, Department of Agronomy, ISU; Soybean Researchers Recognition Award, American Soybean Association/Imperial Chemicals Industries (Americas) Award; Fellow of both the American Society of Agronomy and Crop Science Society of America; Fellow, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science; Distinguished Fellow, Iowa Academy of Science; and National Council of Commercial Plant Breeding Genetics and Plant Breeding Award. He was to be given an honorary degree from Nanjing Agricultural in China this fall.

Before and after Reid married Nuray, he loved to travel and was physically active in hiking and mountain and ice climbing in different parts of the world. One of his claims was that he had never been sick and always watched what he ate and drank. He walked daily to work, regardless of weather. He shared this spirit of good living with his wife Nuray as together they enjoyed traveling both within and outside of the United States. They also shared a love for antique shows, where his earlier interests produced fine collections of Inuit art, and Mary Gregory and barber bottles, as well as other unusual pieces to their liking. Reid and Nuray enjoyed sharing them with friends who visited them.

There is no doubt Reid touched many individuals during his lifetime. However, what he gave to them in friendship, training and love will be felt for generations to come. You will be missed, Reid.

A ‘Celebration of Life’ Reception for Reid will be held at Reiman Gardens, Iowa State University, Garden Room on Wednesday, September 3, from 5-7 pm. In lieu of flowers, memorials for Reid G. Palmer may be directed to the General Agronomy Fund at Iowa State University (2505 University Boulevard, P.O. Box 2230, Ames, Iowa 50010-2230).
Memorial Resolution for
Professor Wilbert A. Russell, 1922-2014

Wilbert A. (Bill) Russell, the son of Emma J. (Ambrick) and Bernard Russell, was born August 3, 1922 and reared, in the farming community of Lenore, Manitoba, Canada. He excelled in Lenore High School, graduating in 1938, and received a "fortuitous" call from the University of Manitoba offering a fellowship. Receiving medals for scholarship he graduated first in his class with a B. A. degree in 1942 and married Dorothy Taylor in Winnipeg in 1943.

World War II, interrupted his decision for further study, and he served as a navigator in the Royal Canadian Air Force, mostly scouting for submarines off the western coast.

Wilbert enrolled at the University of Minnesota and also worked in the Canadian Agriculture Research Service at Morden, Manitoba on improvement of sunflowers and corn. He received an Agriculture Institute of Canada fellowship and earned the Master of Science degree in plant breeding and genetics at the University of Minnesota in 1947. Simultaneously, Bill continued to work at Morden as an Agriculture Research Officer, and was granted the Ph.D. degree in plant breeding at Minnesota in 1952.

Dr. Russell immediately interviewed at Iowa State for a plant breeding position, and was offered an assistant professorship in corn breeding in the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station. After struggling with the decision to move his family from its native land, family and home, he joined the faculty in Agronomy on July 1, 1952 to develop and release inbred lines of corn and to teach graduate plant breeding. After promotion to associate professor, he became a professor in 1962 and remained at Iowa State for 37 years until retirement in 1989 as Emeritus Distinguished Professor.
He refers to inbred B73, released in 1972, as “the number one highlight” among 31 inbred lines and 51 degree holders in high demand which he still regards as “very important and very enjoyable”. Inbred B73 was first discarded for a flaw in its genetics but was rescued because of its high yields and thus it became a choice female parent of hybrids used at appropriate latitudes north and south of the equator. Bill traveled to Europe, Africa and South America where he could see them; the characteristic leaf deployment of the progeny is distinctive and easily seen. He shared skills with plant breeders from abroad and graduate students.

Dr. Russell and his colleagues were prompt in publishing 160 peer-reviewed scientific papers. Noting this, the Italian Journal, Maydica, testified to his worldwide “vital recognition” in corn breeding by dedicating the 1977 volume to him. He was named fellow of the American Agronomy and of the Crop Science societies in 1979 and 1985, and the latter further honored him and with its Crop Science Award and the Dekalb-Pfizer Crop Science Distinguished Career Award, 1989. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences noted him for excellence in plant breeding and extension, 1981, and identified him as C. F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture in 1984 while the Iowa Crop Improvement Association made him an Honorary Member. The University Faculty Citation was awarded in 1985. Dr. Russell was named Distinguished Iowa Scientist by the Iowa Academy of Sciences. The National Council of Commercial Plant Breeders honored him for his contributions in genetics and plant breeding, 1979, and the Associate Hybrid Producers for service to the seed corn industry, 1988. In 2008, an endowed chair in Agronomy was named for him.

On July 17, 2013, Bill and his wife Dorothy celebrated their 70th year wedding anniversary. He is survived by Dorothy, a current resident of Green Hills in Ames, sons Bernard, Barry, and Ken, 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.
On August 13, 2014, Professor Dorothy Hubbard Schwieder died in her home at the Northcrest Community following a battle with lymphoma. Raised in Presho, South Dakota, she earned her bachelor’s degree at Dakota Wesleyan University. She considered her history and politics professor, George McGovern, her most important mentor. She earned a master’s degree in history from Iowa State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Schwieder had a long and successful career in the History Department, beginning teaching in 1966. In 1997, she was named University Professor, and retired from the History Department in 2000. She was a highly successful undergraduate teacher, and introduced courses in both the history of women and the history of Iowa to the department. She was an active graduate mentor to both masters and doctoral students. She was the first woman to be tenured in the department, and the only member of the department to date to be named a University Professor. She was a fellow of the Agricultural History Society, and a founding member of the Rural Women’s Studies Association. In 2012, the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women named her to the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame. She was the author of numerous articles and books. Her most recent book, Growing Up With the Town: Family and Community on the Great Plains, told the story of her childhood and youth in Presho, South Dakota.

She was known throughout the state as the “Dean of Iowa History.” She was the most prolific author of Iowa history, and as her 1996 nomination for University Professor said, she “singlehandedly rejuvenated serious study of Iowa both in the academic and public arenas.” In 2012, Des Moines Area Community College began a series of lectures in Iowa history, named the Dorothy Schwieder Iowa Talks. On May 3, 2013, the History Department announced the naming of the Dorothy Hubbard Schwieder Seminar Room, formerly known as 618 Ross Hall.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Professor Elmer Schwieder. She is survived by daughter Diane Risius and son David Schwieder, as well as a son-in-law, two granddaughters, a grandson-in-law and one great grandchild.
Dr. Hideo “Tachi” Tachibana passed away at his home near San Jose, California on Friday, September 5, 2014. Tachi was born in Los Altos, CA and raised in Mountain View, CA. Following Executive Order 9066, he and his family were relocated to an internment camp in Heart Mountain, WY during World War II. He was drafted into the U. S. Army and served as an interpreter for the Military Intelligence Service.

Tachi returned from military service to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture at the University of California – Davis and a Doctoral degree in Plant Pathology from Washington State University.

In 1963, Tachi moved to Ames and became a long time active member of the Plant Pathology department while working for USDA-ARS on soybean diseases, especially brown stem rot. He was the first in the department to become mechanized with large tractors, plot planters, plot combines, and trailers. He received recognition for his work including the Iowa State University Excellence in Applied Research and Extension Award. Even after his retirement in 1990 Tachi would be in attendance at nearly every Plant Pathology seminar.

Tachi was a loving husband, father and proud grandfather. He is survived by his son Ed, son’s wife Ha Lim Lee and two grandchildren of Hong Kong, daughter Susanne of Oakland, CA and sister, Barbara Sugimoto of Mountain View, CA. He was preceded in death by his wife, Misao (1984), two brothers, Masao and Shigeru, and younger sister Mako Hayamizu.
Donald E. Voelker, Professor Emeritus of Animal Science, died on Friday, July 18, 2014 in Ames, Iowa. Don was born March 1, 1921, in Farmersburg, Iowa and graduated from Postville High School in 1938. He attended Iowa State College, majoring in agricultural education, and received his B.S. in 1943 and then served as an officer in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific theater during World War II. After the war, Don taught vocational agriculture in Gilman and Monroe, Iowa, schools before joining the Iowa State University faculty in 1947 and receiving his M.S. in 1950. He worked as an Extension Dairy Specialist at Iowa State University for 37 years and was honored as Professor Emeritus in 1984.

Don provided leadership in the formation of the Mid-States Dairy Records Processing Center and assisted with the startup of the National Dairy Herd Improvement Association in 1965. Throughout his career he received numerous awards including the Ralph Keeling Iowa Dairy Leadership Award, the National DHIA Service Award, the DeLaval Achievement Award for Extension Work for the American Dairy Science Association, the National Dairy Shrine Pioneer Award, Faculty Citation from the ISU Alumni Association, Land Grant Universities Excellence Award and ISU Dairy Science Distinguished Graduate Award.

Don represented the College of Agriculture on the ISU Athletic Council from 1970-76 and was a member of the Iowa State University Alumni Association, ISU Memorial Union and donor to the Order of the Knoll. Don was recognized as Cy’s Favorite Alum in 2006. He passed on his passion for Iowa State to his five children who all earned degrees from ISU.

After retiring from ISU in 1984, Don served as secretary of the Iowa Holstein Association. In 1986 he married Dorothy Vos and during retirement they traveled and enjoyed spending time with their families. Don was active in the community - belonging to Rotary International, Bethesda Lutheran Church, golf and bowling leagues, and participating in the Iowa Games. At age 92 he was proud to join other veterans on the 2013 Story County Freedom Flight to Washington, D.C.

Surviving Don are his wife, Dorothy, and his children: Vivian Murray (Chris), Vicki Sivesind, Bonnie Jackson (Jon), Larry Voelker (Claretta), Richard Voelker (Michelle) and stepsons Philip Vos (Christine), Daniel Vos (Sherrie), and David Vos (Carol). Additionally, 18 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild survive him. He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, Joyce, three brothers, a sister, a granddaughter, Ruth Murray Skaggs, and a son-in-law, Charles Sivesind.