Billie Chandler Carlson (1924—2013)

Bille Chandler Carlson was born June 27, 1924, in Boston, Massachusetts, and spent his boyhood on the seashore of Cape Cod. He began studies at Harvard College, but joined the U.S. Navy after the onset of World War II and worked on the island of Guam with radar technology, which was novel at the time. After the War he returned to Harvard and completed Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in physics and mathematics. He went on to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar and completed a doctoral degree in physics. After four years in the Physics Department at Princeton, Bille came to the Ames Laboratory and Iowa State University in 1954, where he was a Professor in the Physics and Mathematics Departments, ultimately as a Professor Emeritus. He acquired a deep appreciation for the Iowa countryside.

Bille Carlson was a much liked and respected colleague as a Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Iowa State University until his retirement in 1990. However, his retirement from the department did not mark the end of his enthusiasm for, or research activities on the topic for which his expertise was widely recognized, Special Functions. Indeed, he continued his research activities for the next two decades as an Associate of the Ames Laboratory Applied Mathematics program.

Bille’s impressive career as a researcher in mathematical physics extended for more than 60 years from his first paper published in 1950 on “expansion of the Coulomb potential in spherical harmonics” (which has received 173 citations) to his last paper published in 2011 on “permutation symmetry for theta functions”. He authored a book, “Special Functions in Applied Mathematics” published by Academic Press in 1977, and contributed to the first electronic release of the famous Abramowitz and Stegun Handbook on Mathematical Functions released in 2010. He was well known for Carlson-Keller Orthogonalization and a related theorem, joint work with Joe Keller. In addition, for many years he interacted with, and was esteemed by, theoretical chemistry colleagues on campus. Bille also formulated a course on “Mathematical Methods for the Physical Sciences” which was offered as a valuable primer for incoming graduate students in Physics and Theoretical Chemistry and which runs to this day.

He was predeceased by his wife, Louise W. Carlson, in 1981, and is survived by his companion, Jody Stadler, two children, Marian Carlson and John Carlson, and four grandchildren.
Professor John Clem passed August 2, 2013, after a four year battle with mesothelioma. John was born in 1938 in Waukegan, Illinois; his parents were trained as teachers. John received scholarships at the University of Illinois, where he received his undergraduate degree in engineering physics. He married his high school sweetheart, Judith (Judy) after college graduation. John continued study of physics in graduate school at Illinois, focusing on theory of superconductivity, and earned his Ph.D. under John Bardeen. After postdoctoral appointments in Maryland and München, John joined the Iowa State University Physics Department and Ames Laboratory in 1967, and enjoyed 46 years of collaboration with ISU and Ames Lab colleagues. John had a strong appreciation for the beauty of nature and the underlying theories that govern the flow of the natural world. He was named a Distinguished Professor at ISU, received the 2012 Award for Continuing and Significant Contributions in the Field of Applied Superconductivity from the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) Council on Superconductivity, and is known as the “father of the 2 dimensional pancake vortex.”

John was also an avid vocalist, who enjoyed singing baritone in Ames' Collegiate Presbyterian Church choir, ISU's Musica Antiqua, and conference banquets. John and Judy have enjoyed long associations with Ames Town and Gown, Collegiate Presbyterian Church, the Iowa State Center Performing Arts program, and a couples' book club.

John is survived by his wife, Judy Clem; his sister, Caryl Clem; his children, Paul Clem and Jean (Clem) Latzke; and three grandchildren.

Blessed be the memory of John Clem.
John D. Corbett  
March 23, 1926 – September 2, 2013

John Corbett, age 87 of Ames, died at Mary Greeley Medical Center on September 2, 2013, six days after a severe stroke. John was born March 23, 1926 in Yakima, Washington to Alexander and Elizabeth Corbett. He attended North Dakota State Teachers College and the University of Wisconsin-Madison before completing a B.S. degree, cum laude, from the University of Washington, Seattle, WA in 1948. He completed a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry at the University of Washington in 1952 under the guidance of Prof. N.W. Gregory.

John joined the Department of Chemistry as an assistant professor and the Ames Laboratory as an associate chemist in 1952. He was promoted to professor and senior chemist in 1963. He served as Chemistry Department chair from 1968-1973 and was ultimately promoted to ISU’s highest faculty honor as Distinguished Professor in 1983.

John’s 61-year career as a chemist and scientific educator and mentor was spectacular. His research activities utilized most of the naturally occurring chemical elements, and many of his discoveries have been included in undergraduate and graduate textbooks on inorganic chemistry. He was, at heart, a synthetic inorganic chemist who thoroughly studied structure to gain insights into the chemical bonding features that influenced chemical and physical properties. He mentored over 40 doctoral students and over 70 post-doctoral researchers, along with numerous undergraduate students. Many of his former group members praise his mentorship, friendship, energy, and enthusiasm for science. He published nearly 500 peer-reviewed publications and gave over 350 invited seminars worldwide. John became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1992, and received the American Chemical Society’s Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry in 2000, the Frank H. Spedding Award for rare-earth metal research in 2005, the F. Albert Cotton Award in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry in 2008, and the Humboldt Prize in 1985, among many others. In 2007, John established an endowed professorship at Iowa State University.

In addition to his scientific contributions, John enjoyed and promoted artistic expression, especially in classical music, via participation and support of the Ames Town and Gown. He also generously contributed to Youth and Shelter Services and was an active member of St. John’s Anglican Episcopal Church.

John married Irene Lienkaemper in 1948. He is survived by son Jim (Berkeley, CA), daughter Julia (Utah and Wyoming), brother Dave (Seattle), and grandsons Max, Tom, and Michael. He was preceded in death by wife Irene, son Scott, grandson Gabriel, and brother Don.
Roger Wayne Coulson, of Ames, passed peacefully from this life on Sept. 17, 2013, in the presence of his family. Roger was born in Burlington on May 7, 1921, to Elvin and Eleanor Coulson. He was a dedicated educator and counselor throughout his career and his retirement. Roger was an Emeritus Professor of Human Development and Family Studies and the School of Education at Iowa State University.

Roger graduated from Fort Madison High School, and completed his bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees in educational psychology from the University of Iowa. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps on Peleliu Island during World War II. After his return, he taught high school and became the principal at Wilton High School in Wilton, Iowa. It was there that he met and, in 1949, married Bette Sunderlin. They spent the first 18 years of their married life in Indianapolis, where he taught at Butler University and where their daughters, Sally and Jane were born and raised. In 1968, they moved to Ames, where Roger would head the Child Development Department at Iowa State. He retired from Iowa State in 1988 but continued to be actively involved in educational, counseling and other volunteer services.

Roger was especially proud of the Bureau of Clinical Services at Butler University, which he founded with his co-director, Dr. David P. Torbet, and his service as a consultant to the Pastoral Care and Counseling Center in Indianapolis. He is remembered by many whose lives benefited from his teaching and counseling in Indianapolis, in Boise, Idaho, and throughout Iowa. He is especially remembered at Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation in Ames for his volunteer counseling and for his parenting class as well as many other ministries. His professional memberships include Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Pi, National Education Association, Indiana State Teachers Association, National Council on Measurements in Education, American Psychological Association, Council for Exceptional Children, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Roger loved working with children and students, reading, learning, gardening, beautiful music, the Iowa State Cyclones and a good laugh. His greatest pride was his family. The legacy that Roger would want is for his philosophies of service to mankind and of acceptance and love of all of God’s children exactly as they are, to flourish throughout the world.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 64 years, Bette; two daughters, Sally (John) Johannsen and Jane (Gerry) Kennedy; five grandchildren, Jenny Johannsen, Dan (Kerri) Johannsen, Kristin (Travis) Sullivan, Ryan (Stacey) Beeman Wieland and Laura (Ian) Chidister; step-grandchildren, Jennifer (Keith) Kaiser and Chris (Laura) Kennedy; and 14 great-grandchildren. He will be fondly remembered by his family, a host of dear friends, and countless students.

He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Forest Coulson; and sister, Geneva Kopp. Services were held on Saturday, Sept. 21, at Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation with burial following in ISU Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation.
Emmit Howard Haynes
Professor Emeritus.
September 21, 1926 - December 15, 2006

Professor Emeritus Emmit Howard Haynes, age 80, passed away in Middletown, KY on December 15, 2006. Dr. Haynes was born September 21, 1926 in Woodrow, KY. Following high school, Dr. Haynes served in the United States Army Infantry and Medical Corps during the latter part of World War II. After service in the Army, he completed an Animal Science Degree at Western Kentucky University in 1951. Dr. Haynes then entered the University of Kentucky and completed an M.S. degree in Animal Science in 1953. He was accepted for a Ph.D. program at Cornell University in 1953, completing his degree in Animal Nutrition in 1959.

In 1956, prior to completion of the PhD, Dr. Haynes was hired in the Animal Husbandry (now Animal Science) Department at Iowa State University to teach fundamentals of domestic animal nutrition. For the next 30 years, Dr. Haynes taught nutrition, AnS 318, every semester during his tenure. It is estimated that during over 90 quarters, semesters, and summer sessions of teaching AnS 318, Dr. Haynes taught animal nutrition to over 4,000 students. Dr. Haynes was promoted to Professor in 1972. Concurrent with his formal teaching and advising responsibilities, Dr. Haynes served as advisor to many major undergraduate groups, including VEISHEA Central Committee, Agriculture Council, and Alpha Zeta. He received the College of Agriculture Outstanding Teacher Award in 1975 and the Outstanding Advisor Award in 1973.

In 1959, Dr. Haynes accepted an administrative role as Section Leader for Animal Science Teaching. As Section Leader, Dr. Haynes led the development of the animal science curriculum, coordinated the undergraduate advising program, and managed the department’s course offering until his retirement in 1987. In his leadership role, Dr. Haynes taught the orientation course for all animal science majors, AnS110, introducing all first year students to the discipline of domestic animal science. Dr. Haynes developed a career preparation course, AnS410, in which he helped students prepare for the career market via imparting resume writing, interviewing, and career management skills necessary for success in the early career market.

Dr. Haynes retired from his role as teacher, advisor, and Section Leader at Iowa State University in 1991 and moved back to his home state of Kentucky.
Paul L. Ladd


Paul Lewis Ladd was born September 3, 1953 to Warren Virgil and Irene Rosalie (Petersen) Ladd in Harlan, Iowa. He grew up on a farm near Jacksonville, Iowa and graduated from Harlan Community School in 1972. He attended the University of Northern Iowa and graduated with a degree in Business Management in 1976. He held a Master of Business Administrations (Logistics) degree from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1976, he completed The Basic School in March 1977. Paul served 28 years in the Marine Corps and attained the rank of colonel. He held all levels of command and also served on NATO staff. He spearheaded the task force for the Navy’s Second Fleet security after the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole earning one of his Legion of Merit awards. Throughout his career, he was stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC; Detroit, MI; Quantico, VA; Virginia Beach, VA; Okinawa, Japan; Camp Pendleton, CA; and Newport, Rhode Island. Paul’s final active duty position was Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at Iowa State University. Colonel Ladd retired on April 30, 2004. His personal decorations included the Legion of Merit (two awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

“Col Ladd was a dedicated Marine who deeply cared about the Midshipmen, Sailors, and Marines enrolled at Iowa State. He felt his priority was to attract the best and brightest to Iowa State and give them a solid foundation to become officers in the Naval service and future leaders of our nation. Under his leadership, the NROTC Unit at Iowa State increased enrollment by 61% over the previous twelve years. His legacy will be felt for years as his graduates continue to successfully serve in and out of uniform,” noted CDR Bob Hoffer, USN (Ret). CDR Hoffer served as Colonel Ladd’s Executive Officer.

After retirement from the Marine Corps, Paul accepted the position of Director of Veterans Affairs for Boone County in 2005. He thoroughly enjoyed helping his community and would go out of his way to advocate for and help veterans whenever he could. Paul was also active at the state level of county Veterans Affairs organization.

Paul was sustained by his faith in the Lord and was an active member of the First Evangelical Free Church of Boone. He was also an active member with the Boone County Republicans, the Heartland Chapter of Leathernecks, Marine Corps League, VFW, American Legion, The Gideons and was involved with the ESGR (Employers Support of the Guard and Reserves). He truly loved his community and participated in any way that he could.

Paul enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and often made cross-country trips to visit family and friends. During the summer, he enjoyed training for RAGBRAI and participating in the week-long event with “Team Navy”. Additionally, Paul enjoyed practicing Tae-Kwan-Do, collecting guns and hunting; however, what he enjoyed most was helping his neighbors and dear friends, Jon and Brandon King of King Farms, with fall harvest.
Geraldine M. Montag

Geraldine M. Montag, emeritus professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering (IMSE) passed away September 16, 2013 in Sun City West, AZ at the age of 86. Dr. Montag received both her M.S. and Ph.D. from Iowa State University in 1963 and 1966 respectively. Originally from Canada, she received her B.A. from the University of Western Ontario, London, Canada.

She began her career at ISU in the mid-60s with Student Health and also was in the Institution Management (Home Economics) Department prior to her joining IMSE in 1967. Her research interests were risk analysis involving the development of decision theory under weak and strict ranking in the context of incomplete knowledge. Other research interests included life-cycle costing and engineering economy. She served as acting chair in the Fall of 1991 and also became interim department chair from 1993 until 1995. She retired from the university in January of 1996. In retirement, she was active in her church and with an engineering club.

While a professor in IMSE at Iowa State, Dr. Montag received various awards. Among those most significant include the Iowa State University (ISU) Carrie Chapman Catt Award, ISU Regents Faculty Excellence Award, ISU Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award, and a Faculty Citation Award for long and distinguished service. One of her many qualities was she always strived to see that the best interests of the students were served. Family in Canada survive her. Memorial services were held both in Canada and Arizona.
Richard Morris Robson was born on December 9, 1941, and raised on an 80-acre diversified farm near Atlantic. He earned a bachelor’s degree with distinction in animal science from Iowa State University in 1964, followed by master’s and doctorate degrees in biochemistry from ISU in 1966 and 1969. Richard began his career at the University of Illinois but soon returned to ISU in 1972, joining the departments of animal science and biochemistry. During his tenure at Iowa State, Richard led the Muscle Biology Group for many years.

Across those four decades at ISU, Richard and his lab published more than 235 research articles. His research involved muscle cytoskeletal proteins and structures and was highly innovative and resulted in entirely new concepts and findings. Richard was an active member of several scientific societies, including the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS), and was a recipient of the Distinguished Research Award of the American Meat Science Association, and the Meats Research Award and the Animal Growth and Development Research Award of the ASAS where he was also named as a fellow in 2004. As a gifted teacher and advisor, Richard would guide students through such classes as physiological chemistry and molecular biology of muscle.

Additionally, Richard was a dedicated family man and gifted storyteller with a wonderful sense of humor. Family and friends loved to hear his stories of growing up on the farm.

He is survived by his children, Kristi (Dave Motto) Robson, of Iowa City, and their children, Jack and Sam; Jeff (Traci) Robson, of Marshalltown, and their children, Zachary, Cayden, and Delia; Sam Robson, of New York, N.Y.; Anya Robson, of Chicago; and his sisters, Roberta Kessler, of Saugus, Calif., and Cheryl Peckenpaugh of Greenbelt, Md..

He was preceded in death by his parents, Morris and Eleanor Robson.
Dr. Frances M. Smith, who retired from her almost thirty-year career as a professor in Iowa State University’s College of Family and Consumer Sciences’ Department of Education in 1997, did on May 6, 2013 in Ames, Iowa at 81 years of age. Born in Oklahoma, she received her B.S. ’52 from Southwestern State College, her M.S. in ’58 from Oklahoma State and Ph.D. in Home Economics in ’66 from Iowa State University.

She taught school in Wilsey, Kansas from 1952 to 1956, and in Wichita, Kansas on two separate assignments between 1956 and 1964. She left Wichita briefly to teach in Bremerhaven, Germany from 196-26. Dr. Smith was on the faculty at Kearney State College in Kearney, Nebraska from 1966 to 1968 followed by faculty appointments at Iowa State University from 1968 to 1970 and 1972 to 1997.

The true definition of a researcher, Frances was well known for her questioning skills and applications to critical thinking. In addition, she was a teacher, a mentor, supporter and role model. Her legacy continues as she worked with Julia Faltinson Anderson to establish an endowed scholarship pin the College of Human Sciences for students in family and consumer sciences education and studies. She made special connections with the students she supported. Students received letters, notes of support and visits from Dr. Smith as they progressed in their studies.

Frances was an avid supporter of home economics and actively involved in the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS). She was instrumental in the creation of the integration in Home Economics Interest Group that began in the late 1980’s. She viewed herself as a facilitator, but seminar attendees valued her opinions and admired her strong thinking skills and contributions that enlivened the discussions.

Frances was well known in the Ames community through her associations with Bethesda Lutheran Church, League of Women Voters, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). She was active and dedicated church member and volunteer. She was well-read and always had a clipping, news article or journal prepared to discuss when she attended meetings of various groups in which she participated.

Frances was married in 1968 to Richard Smith (lovingly referred to as her “friend, Richard” during her seminar discussions), who is an Iowa State Professor Emeritus in the Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering department. She is survived by her husband; two daughters, Mary Smith of Schaumburg, Illinois and Barbara Smith of London, England; one brother, Elmer Smith of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and one sister, Pauline Medice of Boston, Massachusetts. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a brother.

Frances M. Smith
Donald Thompson, Professor Emeritus of aerospace engineering and engineering mechanics, died peacefully on Tuesday, July 29 after a two-year battle with cancer. He was the founding director of Iowa State University’s National Science Foundation Industry University Cooperative Research Center for Nondestructive Evaluation (CNDE).

Thompson was born on February 27, 1927 to Oscar and Erma Thompson in Clear Lake, Iowa.

In 1945, Thompson was drafted into the Navy. He served in both the Navy and Air Force doing research until 1963.

He was a pioneer in the field of nondestructive evaluation (NDE), moving nondestructive testing to a more quantitative and science based approach for analyzing the condition of materials and safe life estimation for structures.

Thompson joined ISU and Ames Laboratory in 1979. He was also part of ISU's Institute for Physical Research and Technology (IPRT) since its inception in 1987. With IPRT, Thompson initiated the creation of CNDE, a center devoted to researching, teaching and practicing NDE. Through a collaborative effort between CNDE and ISU’s College of Engineering, he helped develop a fully accredited minor in NDE within the college. This program was the first of its kind.

Thompson began phased retirement in early 1997. In 1999, he accepted a position as Scientific Advisor to IPRT’s Director. He remained President of Quantitative Nondestructive Evaluation (QNDE) Programs until his passing. QNDE, together with CNDE, organizes the annual Review of Progress in QNDE. A week before he passed away, Thompson attended the 40th QNDE meeting where he was recognized for his contributions and role in developing the meeting and the field of NDE.

Immediately prior to joining ISU, Thompson worked in a variety of positions for Rockwell International Science Center in Thousand Oaks, CA. Earlier in his career he was also a group leader in radiation effects at the Solid State Physics Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and at the Air Force Cambridge Research Center Atomic Effects Directorate.

Thompson was a member of the National Academy of Engineering, an Anson Marston
Distinguished Professor and a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and the Rockwell International Science Center. He earned B.A., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from the University of Iowa.

In 1999, Thompson moved back home to Clear Lake. During his final years, Thompson reconnected with many classmates and met monthly with them for a Saturday morning breakfast.

Thompson is survived by his wife Barbara, sons Jim, Steve and John, nine grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.
Thomas Wickersham, born on September 11, 1919 in Melbourne, Iowa, was Emeritus Professor of Animal Science at Iowa State University where he had received his BS degree in Animal Husbandry from Iowa State College in 1941. Prior to his employment at ISU, Tom wed Mary Jane (Janie) Morris on December 13, 1942 and farmed his family’s home place until 1943. He then bought his own farm near St. Anthony, Iowa, where he lived and farmed for three more years. Poor crops prompted Tom to change careers and take a position with Jasper County as 4H Club youth assistant and then as extension director. He and wife had two children, William (Bill) and Susan (Sudi).

Tom joined Iowa State in 1950, receiving a M.S. in 1954. After 34 years with Iowa State as the University Sheep Specialist, Tom retired in 1984. Prior to his retirement, Tom was chosen by his peers to receive the 1980 Animal Science Extension Award for Distinguished Service to the Livestock Industry.

Tom was a man who was dedicated to belonging to and serving his community. He was a member of Collegiate United Methodist Church in Ames, the American Society of Animal Science, Epsilon Sigma Phi, Farmhouse Fraternity and the Ames Kiwanis. Upon his retirement, Tom became interested in Heartland Senior Services and served on their Board of Directors as well as volunteering to help rock babies to sleep at a local daycare.

His love of his own family farm continued and he made improvements as needed for the land and the historic homestead. With help from friends and neighbors, he completed the home place restoration where he enjoyed entertaining and hosting many gatherings for family and friends.

Tom passed away August 12, 2013, at Northcrest Community in Ames at 93 years of age and is survived by his son, William Wickersham of Mazatlan, Mexico, his daughter, Susan Johnson of Manitowoc, Wisconsin; two sisters, Winifred Thompson of State Center, Iowa and Mary June Jones (husband Rod) of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and brother-in-law, Walt (Liz) Morris of Sioux City, Iowa. Four grandchildren survive him: Kate Bragg, Las Vegas, NV; Charles (Denise Ray) Wickersham, Woodbine, Maryland; Amanda (Brad) Kent, Pasadena, CA; and Holly (Darrick) Wesson of DeKalb, IL. Seven great-grandchildren also survive him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Mary Jane on January 3, 1983, and granddaughters, Stephanie Wickersham and Ame Wilson.