Charles D. Drewes

Charles D. Drewes (Charley), University Professor and member of the Ecology, Evolutionary and Organismal Biology Department, died of a heart attack on July 4, 2005 at the age of 58. He was born Sept. 11, 1946 to Henry and Meta Drewes in Bertha, Minnesota. He received a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in 1968. Charlie was a National Science Foundation pre-doctoral fellow from 1969-1972. He received a master’s degree and a doctorate in Zoology with specialty in Neurobiology from Michigan State University in 1970 and 1973.

Charley joined the ISU Zoology Department in 1974, was promoted to Professor in 1981 and was awarded University Professor in 2003. During that time he and his students conducted research and published 55 refereed articles and book chapters in the areas of invertebrate neurobiology, neurotoxicology and environmental toxicology. He mentored 7 PhD and 12 MS students. One of his most significant research contributions was the creation of a non-invasive technique for recording action potentials in the giant nerve fibers of moving earthworms, a technique that he subsequently applied to studying the process of nerve regeneration and to detecting sub-lethal levels of toxicants in the environment. He discovered a totally new type of helical locomotion where worms screw themselves through the water.

Charley was well known for his excellence in and love of teaching. He taught a variety of courses including Advanced Vertebrate Physiology, Neurobiology, Invertebrate Zoology and Bioethics. One graduate student, Karri Haen said of him after she took Bioethics: “Dr. Drewes’ greatest accomplishment as a professor was his ability to inspire students about biological issues, not by teaching mere facts and figures, but by arming students with the vigilance of critical thinking”.

Charley was known as a creative, witty and enthusiastic teacher. He was an “idea person” who created new teaching techniques, strategies or gadgets on a daily, if not hourly, basis. One typical assignment in his invertebrate class was to have the students write a diary entry entitled: “A Day in the Life of…” written from the perspective of the worm, snail or other invertebrate. Charley’s passion was encouraging teachers, at all levels, to use hands-on classroom activities, often involving invertebrate animals. Knowing that most teachers have small budgets, he invented less expensive alternatives for such things as dissecting scopes, fiber optic lights, and equipment for listening to muscle contractions. He shared all his creations by giving workshops at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, by maintaining an elaborate website, by giving...
presentations at Iowa Science Teachers conferences and at the National Association of Biology Teachers. His Website, according to the Google retrieval ranking, was at the time of his death #1 for invertebrate biology, invertebrate locomotion, invertebrate biology teaching and distance mentoring in biology (excluding the ranking for the Journal of Invertebrate Biology). He was an invited presenter in 63 workshops or special courses related to biology education, including the "Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation" in 1996. When he gave presentations he took along boxes full of free materials and equipment for the teachers. His talks were often given to standing room only audiences. As one teacher Brad Williamson states:

“Each of the last 5 years, my wife, in her capacity as science coordinator for our school district, has invited Charlie Drewes to present workshops to our teachers and advanced biology students. He’s always been invited back because he has proven to be both a valuable resource and an inspiration. He brings his physiology equipment, his worms, his homemade equipment, an infectious curiosity and his weird sense of humor. Each year we find more and more of Charlie’s influence showing up in our teachers’ lesson plans and in our students’ individual research projects."

Charley gained state and national recognition for his teaching and received many awards such as an Outstanding Teacher Award from Iowa State in 1991 and the Distinguished Science Teaching Award from the Iowa Academy of Sciences in 1998. In 2001 he was given an award from the Iowa Community College Teachers Association, a group he helped to organize. The National Association of Biology Teachers named him THE National College Biology Teacher of the Year in 2004. Finally he was named University Professor in 2003.

Charley was a dear colleague and friend. Clark Ford, Associate Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition, described Charley as “a gentle soul, someone who cared about the world and about other people. He was real, and tended to shy away from the showy, the pompous, and the ostentatious.” Charley loved sports. He was a football quarterback in college and dominated regional racquetball until his retirement from the sport in 1996. He was an avid fossil hunter. He loved to read and discuss his favorite books, which included “A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold, “Ishmael” by Daniel Quinn and “Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy” by Douglas Adams.

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline Drewes; a son, Thomas and his wife Anne McLaughlin; a daughter Steffi; his parents, Henry and Meta Drewes; one sister, Ellen Drewes-Stoen and her husband, Erik Stoen; one brother John Drewes and beloved friend, Carol Warfel. He will be missed by all family, friends, teachers and students.
Hazel Lipa
Oct. 9, 1907-Oct. 17, 2005

Hazel Lipa died peacefully at home in her room at Northcrest Health Care Center on Monday, Oct. 17, eight days after celebrating her 98th birthday.

Hazel Elvira Erickson was born Oct. 9, 1907, in Evansville, Minn. She attended school in Alexandria, Minn., where she graduated from high school in 1925. In 1929, she received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, and in 1949 she earned a master's degree in English literature from Claremont Graduate School in Claremont, Calif.


Hazel Lipa taught for 33 years in the English Department at ISU, beginning in 1944 and ending with her retirement in 1977. During those years, she was an active member of the academic community, not only teaching composition, literature, creative writing, and the first course ever offered at ISU in television script writing, but also serving on the Faculty Council, editing the first Faculty Handbook and working with the American Association of University Professors. In 1980, she was awarded a faculty citation; the nomination by the vice president for academic affairs stated: "She has devoted untold hours in her efforts to help make this university into an institution known for collegiality and scholarship."

She also was active in the American Civil Liberties Union and the Collegiate Presbyterian Church. Another colleague, Millard Kratochvil, assistant dean, wrote in support of her 1980 faculty citation: "The activities I have listed tell about a person but do not characterize her. Students and staff recall Hazel E. Lipa's spiritedness, her serenity, her good humor, her sound judgment, her courage, and the imparting to the rest of us the assurance that though this may not be the best of all possible worlds we can share in making it better."
She is survived by two daughters, Karen Reed of Mars Hill, N.C., and Susan Toth of Minneapolis, as well as three granddaughters, Corey Reed of Harrisonburg, Va., Kate Reed of Glendale, Calif., and Jennifer Toth of New York, N.Y.
Russell George Pounds, Associate Professor Emeritus of Economics, died October 25, 2005 at his home in Glenn Dale, Maryland, at the age of 85. He retired from ISU in June 1985.

Russ Pounds was born June 26, 1920 in Herminie, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Sewickley Township High School in 1938. In November 1942, he joined the U.S. Army as a Private. By the end of 1943, Russ had been promoted to Master Sergeant. He was promoted to Warrant Officer in 1950, and he was a Chief Warrant Officer in 1962 when he retired from the U.S. Army. While in the army, Russ earned the B.S. degree (1957) from Central State College in Wilberforce, Ohio.

In 1962, Russ began graduate work at ISU in Agricultural Economics. In 1965, while still a graduate student, he was hired as an Extension Associate in the Economics Department. During 1965-66, Russ was Assistant Director of the Iowa Manpower Development Council, a then new state agency created to coordinate state manpower programs eligible for federal funding. During 1968-69, he was Director of the Des Moines Model Cities Planning Project, an agency charged with developing a comprehensive plan to ameliorate the physical and social problems of Des Moines.

When he finished his M.S. degree work in 1970, Russ was promoted to Extension Economist and Assistant Professor of Economics. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1975. Professor Pounds was a public policy Extension specialist. His duties involved developing and presenting off-campus educational programs that addressed the economic concerns of local governments, public school systems, business groups and concern citizens. These educational programs covered topics such as housing alternatives for small towns, reducing energy costs and usage, rural water systems, financing and delivering public services, urban and rural development, human resource development, critical economic issues, etc.. In 1984, Professor Pounds was a Visiting Professor on the teaching staff of the University of Zambia in connection with ISU’s USAID-funded development project in Zambia.
Russ was very active in public and community service. For example, he was a member of the Ames City Council, 1971-75; a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Association of Local Governments, 1973-75; President of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, 1974-75; a member of the Board of Directors of the National League of Cities, 1974-75; a member of the Board of Directors of ISU Black Cultural Center, 1969-75; Chair of the Ames Human Relations Commissions, 1982-84; member of the Board of Directors of the Story County Volunteer Bureau, 1982-84.

Russ was awarded the Bronze Star for his service with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He received the Martin Luther King Award for Distinguished Service in 1984, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Award for Dedication and Valuable Service in 1984 and the Story County Outstanding Volunteer Award in 1984.


Russ Pounds is survived by his wife Augustine, three children, two step children, four grandchildren, a brother and a sister. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted by
Dennis R. Starleaf
Emeritus Professor of History Alan Freese Wilt died on May 7, 2005 in Ames, a week short of his sixty-eighth birthday. He taught modern European and military history at ISU from 1967 until his retirement in 1999. He was a visiting professor at the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, in 1982-83, a Visiting Professor in the Iowa-Arizona London Study Abroad Program in London, England, in 1991, and a Visiting Professor at Glasgow University in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1997. He received a State of Iowa Regents Faculty Excellence Award in 1993 and served as the History Department’s representative in the Iowa Faculty Senate. He was active in many professional organizations, including the Society for Military History, the Western Association for German Studies, the German Studies Association, and he served on the editorial board of the *Journal of Military History* from 1998 to 2001.

In the course of his career, Alan Wilt published five books, most of which focused on World War II military strategy, policy, and planning, subjects he approached with an eye for complexities and nuances. His monograph on Hitler’s “Atlantic Wall” examined Germany’s western defenses as fortifications, firepower, and manpower, the latter two influences by changing military realities and strategic decisions. His account of the French Riviera campaign of 1944 described the operation and judiciously assessed its importance, concluding that the operation helped the later stages of the Normandy thrust and made possible Eisenhower’s “broad front” strategy of 1944-45. His interest in military planning led to considering it at the highest levels. In *War from the Top*, he contrasted the British and German command systems, concluding that the former produced the kind of comprehensive planning that facilitated victory. His last published book, *Food for War*, enlarged his strategic concerns by exploring how during the 1930s Britain organized agricultural production and supply as part of its rearmament planning. Characteristically, he saw agricultural policies resulting from the complex interaction of policymakers, government executives, and agricultural interests. At the time of his death, he was well into a study of the Anglo-American Combined Chiefs of Staff, the book that his career had pointed him toward.
Wilt exemplified ISU’s ideal of the teacher-scholar. In addition to taking turns teaching the History Department’s Western Civilization course, he taught courses in military history, modern European history, and the history of modern Germany. His courses regularly conveyed a lively personal engagement with the material and a flair for the apt metaphor or analogy. But the core of his teaching was neither personal flair or stage-management. It was sound scholarship. No one took a course from him for an easy grade; students enrolled in his courses knew they would be judged by rigorous academic standards.

Wilt is survived by his wife Maureen of Ames, two daughters and their husbands, three grandchildren, one brother and his wife, and two nieces and a nephew.