Walter Chatfield, passed away Sunday, April 26, 2009, in Ames. He had retired in July 1998 after twenty-nine years as Assistant Professor of French and Spanish in the Department of World Languages and Cultures (Foreign Languages and Literatures). Walter graduated from Muscatine High School and received his Bachelors of Arts Degree from Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. He received his Master of Arts from the University of Iowa and subsequently conducted graduate work at Ohio State University. Walter coordinated and trained student-teachers in foreign languages and taught many of the department’s introductory courses in French and Spanish. Many of the state’s current high school foreign language teachers took his Teaching Methods class and he supervised their student-teaching experience. During his career at ISU, he trained nearly 400 teachers, many of whom maintained regular contact with Walter after his retirement. Some of these graduates have served as cooperative teachers for the younger generation of student-teachers. Walt was an active member of the Iowa World Language Association (Iowa Foreign Language Association) throughout his career and serving in many capacities in the IWLA leadership. He was an advocate of foreign language instruction at all levels. Walter is remembered as a dedicated student advisor, mentor, and colleague with a wonderful sense of humor. The Walter Chatfield Scholarship, which was established upon his retirement, provides support for students from any world language major who have been accepted into the secondary education program at ISU. The Scholarship ensures that Walter’s commitment to foreign language education will continue with many new generations of students to come.
Edgar Vermont Collins  
March 27, 1922-Nov. 4, 2009

Ed was a devoted husband and loving father, as well as being a skilled engineer, beloved professor and an avid outdoorsman.

Ed was born and raised in Ames, enjoying an active childhood at Brookside Park and up and down Squaw Creek. His father was an inventor and professor of agricultural engineering at Iowa State College, and taught young Ed the skills to build and fix pretty much anything, from buildings and boats to tractors and toilets.

Ed came of age during World War II. The Army recognized his talent, so instead of sending him off to fight, they sent him to school at LSU, where he became a ballistics expert and earned a master’s in mathematics. He took a break from the Army in December 1944 to marry his Cass Lake sweetheart, Dorothy Jane (Sue) Wentling, and spend a honeymoon with her at the primitive family cabin at Cass Lake in northern Minnesota.

Arriving in Europe shortly after V-E Day, he was detailed to calibrate captured artillery pieces so they could be shipped off to the Pacific theater. The Europeans did not want any more guns going off, so after knocking around France, Belgium and Holland for a few months, he was sent back home and discharged.

He returned to Ames to complete a master’s in chemical engineering, and worked in the research labs at Sinclair Oil in Chicago for eight years before taking a position at Iowa State. Back in Ames again, he moved his growing family into the house on Brookridge where he was raised.

At Iowa State, he spent 37 years on the faculty in chemical engineering, where he was a friend to his colleagues, a mentor to many students and an active member of the state chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Ed taught each of his five children a love of the outdoors, taking them hiking, fishing, camping and canoeing, along with annual berry-picking forays in the woods around Cass Lake and along Squaw Creek. He was a consistent recreational athlete, enjoying cross country skiing and windsurfing long
before those sports became fashionable. He was known around Ames for his regular jogging runs on city streets in his bare feet.

He was an active member of his church and a strong supporter of the Boy Scout program. As a Boy Scout leader, he worked with local scout groups of all ages, and was awarded the Silver Beaver for his 21 years of service.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Dorothy “Sue” Collins; children (spouses), John (Anne) Collins, of Hudson, WI, Lee (Kaye) Collins, of Livermore, CO, Hugh (Paula) Collins, of Brownwood, TX, Christopher (Martha) Collins, of Bloomington, IN, and Patricia (Darrell) Crow, of New Albany, MI, as well as 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his older brother, Stanley Collins; and his older sister, Mary Johnson.
Memorial Resolution for Harry W. Hale

Harry W. Hale, 89, of Ames and Naples, Florida, died February 5, 2010 in Naples of cancer. Hale was born September 15, 1920, in Indiana. He earned three degrees in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University, including a PhD in 1947. He was a professor of electrical engineering at Iowa State University from 1960 to 1991. Before joining Iowa State, he served in the US Army, rising to the rank of Captain, was on the faculty at Purdue University, and was chair of electrical engineering at Wayne State University.

While at Iowa State, Hale was sometimes called “Mr. Circuits,” a nickname he earned for his outstanding research and teaching efforts, as well as for his contributions to two handbooks for engineers: the Standard Handbook of Electrical Engineering and the Electronics Engineers Handbook.

He was an active teacher and scholar at both the graduate and the undergraduate levels. One of his more than 20 PhD students, Glenn Bergland, developed a new research area, now known as the Fast Fourier Transform. This analysis tool finds wide application in understanding signals from space probes, electrocardiograms, and in countless other modern systems. While at Purdue, Hale and a colleague published a very early, pioneering paper describing the Ward-Hale method for understanding electric power systems, helping to lay the foundation for other scholars to understand our modern electric power system. This was but one of his approximately 30 journal articles, and the topic continues to be of great importance to all of us.

Hale was a mentor to many young faculty members, and he served with outstanding leadership and contributions on departmental, college, and university level committees dealing with all aspects of university life, including resources, curriculum, and graduate studies. As a committee chair, he guided the committees with soft, effective, highly principled leadership. As a committee member, he contributed thoughtfully to the discussions and many outstanding decisions were made because of his contributions and ideas.

In the classroom, his wide-ranging knowledge, his careful preparation, and his concern for students led him to be a very effective teacher, whether at the undergraduate level or at the graduate level. He was largely responsible for the department’s graduate course offering in circuit theory. Iowa State recognized his contributions with a Faculty Citation award in 1976. He leaves a legacy of ideas, policies, procedures, and especially students, now graduates, who continue to contribute to our worldwide society.
Dr. Patricia Keith passed away on Monday, January 4, 2010 at the age of 70. Keith was hired in 1970 and this year marked her 40th year with the university. She was one of the first women to be promoted to a tenure track position in the Department of Sociology. She received her B.S. from Southwest Missouri State in 1960 and graduated with her Ph.D. in Sociology from St. Louis University in 1969. Keith served as a Research Associate at Washington University before accepting a position at Iowa State.

She has made numerous contributions to the department, college and university over her long career at Iowa State. Keith was a leader in studying the social dimensions of aging, and her work has been routinely cited in books and articles on gerontology, as well as in work on marriage and family issues. She maintained a productive scholarly career throughout her four decades of service on this campus.

Keith was recognized for her seven years as the Sociology Department Teaching Coordinator and her seven years of service as the Assistant Dean in the Graduate College.
Dr. Lee R. Kolmer
1928 – 2010

Dr. Lee Kolmer, 82, died Monday, January 18, 2010 at Kavanagh Hospice in Des Moines, IA from congestive heart failure. Dr. Kolmer was born January 4, 1928 in Waterloo, IL. He was raised on a farm in southern Illinois with four sisters and one brother. Lee attended the University of Illinois for one year after high school and didn’t do well. He enlisted in the United States Army and served much of his duty in Italy and Yugoslavia. Upon his return from the Army, Lee farmed with his father for two years until both of them realized that the farm did not produce enough income to support two families. Lee left the farm and gave higher education another try. He enrolled at Southern Illinois University and this time it clicked. He completed a B.S. and an M.S. degree in 1952. And he went on to obtain his Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Economics from Iowa State University in 1954.

After completion of his Ph.D. he taught at Southern Illinois University from 1954-56. He joined the Iowa State Faculty in 1956 and became an administrator of the Cooperative Extension program in 1965. He was named Associate Dean of Agriculture and Director of Extension in 1971 at Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR. Two years later he returned to Iowa State as Dean of Agriculture. Lee was the archetypal ag dean. Tall, angular, with a rumbling bass voice, he could elicit the attention and respect of his faculty and, when needed, a university president or a legislator or two. He knew the agricultural industry from field to plate and used that knowledge to advance the College’s mission. Above all, Lee was a builder – of programs, facilities, people, relationships and furniture – when he had a few free minutes.

Lee was recognized with many honors in his professional career, but the one he treasured the most was the Faculty Citation given to him by the Iowa State Alumni Association in 1997. He was recognized for expanding the horizons of all students and professionals in the College of Agriculture during his 14 year tenure as Dean. He was cited for compassionate, sincere and visionary leadership during the difficult farm crisis years of the 1980. He was instrumental in forming the nationally known Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and he encouraged faculty to seek out professional and scientific cooperation.
with colleagues nationally and internationally. Many of those alumni who graduated under his tutelage have become leaders in industry, science, education and government.

During his tenure as Dean, he expanded the international work done by the faculty of Iowa State University. His travels on behalf of the University included Peru, China, Belgium, France, England, Spain, Morocco, Ghana, Southeast Asia, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Russia, Kenya and many more.

As Dean he mobilized grass-roots support of state agricultural leaders in a well-orchestrated funding pursuit that resulted in the construction of six major building projects and the National Soil Tilth Laboratory. He was instrumental in securing the resources for the new meat laboratory, horticultural building, a major addition to agronomy, facilities for seed science, food technology/food science, and an addition to animal science to house a linear accelerator for research in meat and vegetable crops.

He left the Dean’s job in 1987 when he and his wife, Jean, moved to Washington, D.C. for 2 years with the U.S.D.A. He then returned to ISU as professor of economics until his retirement in 1992. After 30 years out of the classroom he quickly became a favorite teacher, with student ratings for his course on national farm policy among the highest in the department.

Dean Kolmer cared deeply about agriculture, farming people and rural communities. He exemplified all that is good about public life and the Land-grant University.

Dr. Kolmer was preceded in death by his mother, Carmelita; father, Arthur; sisters, Shirley Ann and Mary; and two infant brothers, James and John. He is survived by his siblings, Dorothy Dussold of Union, MO, Joe Kolmer of Columbus, OH and Elizabeth Kolmer of St. Louis, MO; his wife of nearly 58 years, Jean Kolmer, formerly of East St. Louis, IL; and their children, Diane (Bill Blum) Kolmer of West Des Moines, Jim Kolmer of St. Paul, MN and John (Clarissa Baach) Kolmer of Peoria, IL; three grandchildren, Jefferson, Neil and Zhi Yu of Peoria, IL.

Respectfully submitted
Robert W. Jolly
Wendy Wintersteen
Paul Lasley
GianCarlo Moschini
Karen Bolluyt
Charles William Meyer, Emeritus Professor of Economics, died October 21, 2009 at the age of 77 after a long illness.  

Charles (Charlie) Meyer was born March 15, 1932 in Joliet, Illinois. He earned the BA degree in Economics at the University of Illinois in 1954 and the MA degree in Economics at that same institution in 1955. After serving on active duty as an officer in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1958, he enrolled in the graduate program in Economics at Johns Hopkins University where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1961. 

Charlie joined the ISU faculty as an Assistant Professor of Economics in 1961. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1964 and to Professor in 1967. He retired in 1998. 

Charlie was a versatile and effective teacher at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Over the years of his employment at ISU, he taught undergraduate courses in public finance, microeconomic theory, money and banking, macroeconomic theory, principles of economics, economics of aging and international trade. At the graduate level, he taught courses in the theory of public goods and externalities, economics of taxation and microeconomic theory. In collaboration with his departmental colleague Professor J. Ronnie Davis, now at the University of New Orleans, he was the author of Principles of Public Finance, a well-known and successful undergraduate textbook published by Prentice-Hall Publishing in 1984. 

Charlie's research interests were primarily in the areas of the economics of taxation, Social Security and disability insurance. He was the author of several refereed journal articles and three scholarly books: Social Security Disability Insurance (Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 1979); Social Security: A Critique of Radical Reform Proposals, principal author and editor, (Lexington, MA:
Lexington Books, 1987); *Social Security and Individual Equity*, co-authored with his former student Professor Nancy Wolff, now at Rutgers University, (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, Inc., 1987).

During 1968-69, Charlie was a Visiting Professor in the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin. During 1973-74, he worked as an Economist in the Office of Research and Statistics at the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C. During 1988-89, he was a Visiting Professor at the Center for Health Economics and Law at the University of Wisconsin.

Charlie played a key role in several research efforts of direct relevance to the state of Iowa. Most notably, he was a member of the research group that developed program materials for the Cooperative Extension Service programs on Financing Public Services (1964) and Dimensions of Welfare (1967). He was research coordinator for the Governor's Study of Tax Structure (1966) and for the Iowa Legislative Tax Study Committee (1970-71; 1972-73).

Over the years, Charlie served on a large number of departmental, college and university committees. And he was chair of many of these committees. He was a great committee member-- conscientious, thoughtful and cooperative. Charlie served as departmental coordinator for Economics teaching during 1974-85.

Charlie was widely respected by his professional peers for his command and precision in use of economic theory. His colleagues recognized that he did not speak often but when he spoke his comments were cogent and reflective of his broad interest in current economic and political issues.

Charlie received the Iowa Regents Faculty Excellence Award in 1994.

Charlie married Donnelle Sedgley in Muscatine in 1964. She and their son, Demian Bourne, survive him.

Respectfully submitted,

Lehman B. Fletcher
Dennis R. Starleaf
Robert M. Muir, 81, of St. Cloud, Minnesota, died Monday, October 12, 2009 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Sauk Rapids Minnesota.

Muir was an assistant professor in Iowa State University’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1957 to the late 1970s. His chief professional interests were in electronic circuits and devices and educational methods. He conducted research from 1961 to 1970 on magnetic recording.

Muir was born on March 20, 1928, in Chicago. He married Kathleen Lucas on June 22, 1952 in Bedford. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1946 to 1948 aboard the USS Benner. Muir also received his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering and master’s degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State in 1952 and 1962, respectively.

Prior to coming to Iowa State as a professor, Muir worked for Collins Radio (now Rockwell Collins) from 1952 to 1957. Muir left Iowa State in the late 1970s to work in industry for 10 years at Honeywell in Plymouth, Minnesota. He later returned to academia to work for the MIT Research Group in Massachusetts from 1991 until his retirement in December 1995.

Muir was a member of BETA Fraternity at Iowa State and a member of Grace United Methodist Church. He was one of the first high school athletes in the country to break the two-minute barrier in the half-mile run. He also was active and competitive in gold, racquetball, and cross-country skiing.
Ruth Louise Dahlberg Smith passed away on January 16, 2010 at the Northcrest Health Care Center in Ames, Iowa after a long illness. She was born September 2, 1917, the eldest of four children on a farm in Springfield, Minnesota. She graduated from Iowa State University in 1939 in Home Economics. She married Emerson Reid Smith on June 15, 1941. The couple moved to Topeka, Kansas and Ruth lived there until her husband died in 1967. She returned to Ames, where she taught Food and Nutrition at ISU. After completing a master’s in education at ISU, she worked conducting tests at the ISU Meat Sciences Laboratory until retirement in the late 1970’s. She was committed to service to others throughout her life, including volunteering for Meals on Wheels, FISH, Libraries Abroad, and involvement in promotion of international understanding through educational exchange programs.

She is survived by three children: Alan Reid Smith (Joan), Orinda, CA; Elizabeth Alexander, Okemos, MI; and David Eugene Smith (Jan), Los Altos Hills, CA; by four grandchildren: Leslie Leve, Dana Luis, Patrick Alexander, and Stephen Alexander; by five great grandchildren: Alex and Isaac Leve, Nathan and Caleb Luis, and Colin Alexander; by one sister Betty Halverson; and by a sister-in-law, Gwen Dahlberg. Her husband Emerson, her brother Robert Dahlberg, and her sister Helen Wilson preceded her in death.

Ruth will be remembered for her kindness, generosity and wonderful meals.
MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Louis Milton Thompson

Louis M. Thompson was born May 15, 1914 in Throckmorton, Texas; died on July, 24, 2009 at Ames, Iowa and interred in the Iowa State University Cemetery. He married Margaret Stromberg with whom he reared five children before she died in 1972, and in 1990 married Ruth Hiatt Phipps adding three step-children. He earned a B.S. degree at Texas A. and M. College and a reserve officer’s commission in the U.S Army in 1935. Joining Iowa State College for graduate study in 1946, he was granted the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in 1947 and 1950, respectively.

Louis Thompson had established a commitment and reputation as an excellent teacher and wrote his first text book at A. and M. between 1936 and 1942 when he was called to active military duty. Briefly he returned to teaching at A. and M. in 1946. He was appointed assistant professor of agronomy at Iowa State in 1947 while he continued graduate study, was appointed professor in 1950 and named professor-in-charge to create the Farm Operation Curriculum which he led until becoming Associate Dean for Resident Instruction in the former College of Agriculture in 1958. His hallmarks were a deep involvement with his students and their families and providing outstanding counseling. As Associate Dean, he took leadership in securing funding for major additions to Horticulture, Animal Science and Agronomy buildings and construction of the Seed Science Center while being a strong supporter of superior teaching and advising in the College. He retired in 1983 and designated Associate Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Agronomy, but remained active in study, publication and philanthropy at Iowa State. His successor was left free to perform his duties, but Dean Emeritus Thompson was always available for counsel and support. He “left an outstanding legacy in academic programs at Iowa State ... no other administrator has been able to match ....”

Dr. Thompson was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, and Soil and Water Conservation Society, and member of American Meteorological Society. He was National Honorary Member of FarmHouse Fraternity and also member of Alpha Zeta, Cardinal Key, Gamma Sigma Delta (National President), Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi. Students, alumni, colleagues and associates in Alpha Zeta, Soil and Water Conservation Society, Gamma Sigma Delta, College of Agriculture, Iowa State University Alumni Association (three awards), Iowa Academy of Science, ISU Agriculture Alumni
Association, National Agri-Marketing Association and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and Iowa Farm Bureau all bestowed their singular honors. His most treasured honor was the Henry A. Wallace Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture, presented by Iowa State University in 1982. A participant in the National Association of State and Land-grant Universities for twenty-five years he was Secretary and Treasurer and later chairman of the Resident Instruction Section, Division of Agriculture, Senator Representing Resident Instruction, Representative on the Agriculture Committee of the Bureau of the Census, and member of the National Steering Committee, leading to the publication of THE CENTURY AHEAD to which he contributed.

Dean Thompson had an undying commitment to excellence in teaching, advising and mentoring undergraduate students in agriculture. Believing that every student deserved superior faculty guidance, he implemented the Agriculture Dean’s vision of being first class in all teaching to the limit of his resources. This was done by giving credit for advising and mentoring, and rewarding the most meritorious; making sure that their recognition and rewards were on par with those in other academic functions. Also by vigorous support of graduate teaching assistant and instructor appointments in the College, first to train future teachers and second, to permit faculty members fully to develop new instruction approaches and techniques, including the hardware. This was a “Golden Era” for resident instruction in agriculture at Iowa State.

He remained in the Army Reserve; later retiring with the rank of Colonel. Army Officer Thompson maintained readiness for active duty, while pursuing an academic career, by completing regular military assignments including summer training. During this time he became vitally interested in the effect of climate and weather on crops, an academic pursuit continued in retirement. This led to numerous scientific and popular publications on cyclical weather patterns, El Nino, and potential effects on crop yields in the U.S. Midwest and for which he has received international recognition, and cited in Who’s Who in the World and Who’s Who in America. Added to this He was senior author of three text books and junior author of two all relating to soils.

Of all of Dr. Thompson’s accomplishments he considered helping students use potential and ability to reach their goals and achieve their dreams. He established endowments for Agronomy, for Academic Excellence and for Study Abroad Scholarships in the Iowa State University Foundation toward which memorials may be directed.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Hiatt Thompson; his children, Louis(Laura) Thompson, Orange, Va.; Margaret Ann (Newt) Trail, Kemp, Tex.; Carolyn (Roy) Abbott, Brainerd, Minn.; Jerome (Gretchen) Thompson, Des Moines, Ia.; stepdaughters, Becky (Rick) Lorenzen, Dubuque, Ia.; Nancy Bayerle, Alexandria, Va.; stepson Grant (Patsy) Phipps, Chandler, Ariz.; 13 grandchildren, six step grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Margaret Stromberg Thompson; one daughter, Glenda Thompson Knight; one brother, Leon Aubrey Thompson; and one sister, Mildred Thompson Cowley.
Delmar (“Van”) Van Meter passed away on January 5, 2010 at the age of 77.

Van was born on January 16, 1932, in Cosby, Missouri. He earned a football scholarship to the University of Missouri where he received B.S. degrees in Agriculture, Agriculture Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. He then went on to receive a graduate degree from ISU in Mechanical Engineering.

From 1954 to 1956 he served in the Army, and continued in the Army Reserves until 1993 where he had attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He married his wife, Jo Mabrey, in 1956 in Colorado Springs.

He was an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering serving on the faculty from 1958-2000. He taught thermal sciences and heat transfer courses in the department, and his specialty was in internal combustion engines and thermodynamics. He was also sought after by many clients to be a consultant on the areas of his expertise.

Two former colleagues and fellow emeritus professors, Dick Pletcher and Bill Cook, offer their insights on Professor Van Meter as a person, teacher, and scholar:

“He was an unusual person. His knowledge in the subjects which he taught—thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, heat transfer,
internal combustion engines, and instrumentation—was almost legendary. He had a brilliant insight into his specialties. He was most fond of teaching thermodynamics and internal combustion engines.

His colleagues developed a considerable respect for his intellect. He was very bright and seemed to know something on any and all subjects. He was a practical person and seemed to know how everything worked. He was sought out by various faculty members and graduate students with difficult problems, and more often than not, he would solve them with no concern for the time they took.

He was incredibly dedicated and passionate about his work. He spent many hours, frequently at night, working up laboratory experiments to illustrate the material he had taught in class.

He was a mild and gentle person, freely giving of his time without expecting a reward. He was cheerful and friendly. He will be greatly missed.”

He was active community member outside of academia as well. He served as a volunteer of the First Baptist Church in Ames, as a school board member for Gilbert Community Schools, and as an Assistant Scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America.

Van, pictured second from the left, last visited the ME department in December of 2009 where emeritus faculty gathered for a luncheon.

He is survived by his wife, four children, eleven grandchildren, and two brothers. He will be fondly remembered by his family, friends, and his many colleagues and former students whose lives he helped touch in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.
Roy Dale Voorhees, 88, of Ames, died Sunday, May 24, 2009, at Israel Family Hospice House in Ames. The body has been cremated and memorial services will be at a later date in Washington, Iowa.

Roy Dale Voorhees was born March 21, 1921, in West Chester, the son of Carl G. Voorhees and Margaret (Bauer) Voorhees. He graduated from Washington High School in 1939 and joined the Air Corps in December 1941. He married Mary Peck Sept. 10, 1942. He was commissioned and, as a pilot, was sent to England in the spring of 1943 where he flew 55 bombardment missions against occupied Europe and participated in the 1944 invasion. Neither he nor members of his crew ever claimed a Purple Heart. After the war, he continued in the U.S. Air Force and retired as a colonel USAF Sept. 1, 1971. When he left the service, he had received many citations including the Air Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Legion of Merit.

Upon completion of his highly successful military career, Dale began his academic career as an associate professor at Iowa State University in 1971. As a teacher, Professor Voorhees was well known for linking theory with practice. Besides sharing his own experiences, he frequently called upon his network of friends in industry to speak in his classes. His classes were informative, thought provoking and integrative. He cared about his students, wanting them to develop as individuals both professionally and personally.

Professor Voorhees was an accomplished researcher who published in the leading transportation and logistics management journals, including “Journal of Business Logistics” and “Transportation Journal,” as well as in marketing and business strategy journals. His research focused on strategic logistics management, logistics integration with other business disciplines, the role of logistics in the global
economy, and telecommunications.

He was a graduate of Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and George Washington University. Throughout his life, he maintained an active interest in farming.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by Kristin (Roderick) MacRae, of Chicago; Mary Gretchen (Michael) Green, of Fort Worth, Texas; Rox (Christa) Voorhees, of Denver, Colo.; Bret (Jennifer) Voorhees, of West Des Moines; and Carol Voorhees, daughter-in-law, of Virginia Beach, Va. He also is survived by nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; one brother, Donald (Berta) Voorhees, of Orlando, Fla.; one sister, Mary (Martin) Hanzlik, of Novato, Calif.; and many friends and colleagues.

His oldest son, Van J. Voorhees, predeceased him in 1996.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Israel Family Hospice House, 400 S. Dakota Ave., Ames, IA, 50014 or the Van Voorhees Fund, CARC, attention CEO Kristin MacRae, 8 S. Michigan Ave, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL, 60603.
Richard M. Willett, 79, of Webster, Texas, died Saturday, October 10, 2009. Willett was a professor in Iowa State University’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering for more than 20 years. He also earned his master’s degree in electrical engineering and PhD degree in electrical engineering with a minor in aeronautical engineering from Iowa State in 1956 and 1966, respectively. Willet holds at least one U.S. patent, including patent no. 2,934,837 “Sweep Circuit” issued on February 2, 1960.

Willett was born on November 13, 1929 in Rock Island, Illinois. He resided in Texas since 1989. Willett proudly served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. In addition to his teaching career, Willett was employed by the following companies: North American Aviation, Bendix, Honeywell, IBM, and Martin Marietta and John Engineering, a contractor for NASA where he did research on control systems. He also did consulting work for Collins Radio (now Rockwell Collins), Bendix, and the Rock Island Arsenal in the 1960s.

Willett enjoyed 55 years of marriage with his wife, Carolyn. They loved spending time with their family sharing their passion for sailing and sailboat racing. Throughout the years, they traveled extensively and during retirement, drove their RV around the country visiting maritime museums and lighthouses. Willett also was an avid reader, interested in all types of history, and even wrote a book about a young man during the Revolutionary War titled, *Privateer*. 