MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

Robert Bernard

Nikki Bado

Hamilton Cravens

Larry Curtis

Melba Dee Foreman

Karl Friederich

Karl Gschneiderner, Jr.

Charles Handy

Ruth Elizabeth Pierce Hughes Moyer

Elizabeth S. Rectanus

Donald Sanderson

George Seifert

Dwight Teeter

John G. Verkade

Iowa State University Faculty Senate
May 3, 2016
Robert Bernard -- March 28, 2016

Robert William Bernard, 80, a long-term Ames resident and retired professor of French and Italian at Iowa State University, died Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016, at Green Hills Health Care Center in Ames, IA.

Robert was born Sept. 15, 1935 in Detroit, MI, and was the only child of Kathleen and Harry Bernard, who were born in Trenton, Ontario. During his childhood, his father's work took the family to many places to live, including Younkers, NY, Memphis, TN, and St. Paul, MN. Robert attended high school in St. Paul. He graduated from the University of St. Thomas, also in St. Paul, where he discovered his academic love of French literature. Robert completed his graduate work (Masters and Ph.D.) at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, with his dissertation on Christine de Pizan, a Fifteenth Century French medieval author. He settled in Ames in 1965 when he became an Iowa State University faculty member in the Department of Foreign Languages.

He raised two sons in Ames from his first marriage, Christopher and Peter. As a devoted son to his mother, he shared his home with her for eight years until she died in December of 1995. In January of 1996, Robert met his second wife, Julie Minkler, who was born and raised in Athens, Greece, and immigrated to the United States in 1974. Their new family also included Julie's son, Stefan Minkler.

Robert's passions ranged from his research and scholarship in French Literature and Film, as well as Classic American Cinema, from silent films through the 1960s. He also loved Italian language and culture, particularly focusing on 1950s cinema, as well as its extraordinary cuisine. With Julie, their mutual passions for international travel took them abroad many times. Over the years, through their many visits to Greece, they kept close ties to Julie's cousins, Maria and Anna Tsivakou, and close friends, including Nick Zahariadis.

Robert was a long-term and contributing member of St. Thomas Aquinas Church. The last eleven months of his life, he spent at Green Hills Health Care Center, where he was cared with compassion. Robert was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Julie Minkler; his two sons, Christopher (Christine) Bernard, a Technology Executive in Microsoft, in Elmhurst, IL; Peter Bernard, Lieutenant Commander in the US Navy (currently in Bahrain); one stepson, Stefan Minkler of Ames, who shares Bob's passion for cinema; and his loving grandchildren, Benjamin, Ellie, and Erin.

A Celebration of Mass will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, Feb. 20 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church (2210 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA). Visitation will precede the mass at 10:15 am. Burial service will be private.
Nikki Bado passed away on Friday, April 22, 2016. Nikki earned her B.A. and M.A. from Ohio University, and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Ohio State University. Her tenure-line appointment at Iowa State started with a joint appointment in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and the Women’s Studies Program. She later moved full time to the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies while remaining affiliated with the Women Studies Program. She was the Director of the Religious Studies Program from 2008-2010.

Nikki’s specialization in ritual studies and performance, women and religion, religion and the body, and folklore brought a unique perspective to the religious studies program. Her two books, *Coming to the Edge of the Circle: A Wiccan Initiation Ritual* and *Toying With God: The World of Religious Games and Dolls* were well received, with the latter nominated for the American Academy of Religion best book of the year in the analytical/descriptive category.

With her quick wit, sharp tongue, and infectious laughter Nikki related well to students. Many of her students counted her as not only a mentor but also as a friend.

During the past several years Nikki suffered serious side effects of diabetes that kept her out of the classroom and away from campus. She had only recently returned to teaching, offering the first on-line courses for the religious studies program which, to her surprise, she enjoyed a great deal.
Hamilton Cravens died in Minneapolis on November 24, 2015, at the age of 77. He was born in Evanston, Illinois, and grew up in Olympia, Washington. He received his undergraduate degree and master’s degree in history at the University of Washington, and then took his Ph.D. at the University of Iowa in 1969. He taught as an instructor first at the Ohio State University and then at Iowa State University, where he became an assistant professor upon completing his Ph.D. Promoted to associate professor in 1973 and full professor in 1980, he was named Distinguished Arts and Humanities Scholar at Iowa State in 2007.

Dr. Cravens authored two books, *The Triumph of Evolution: American Scientists and the Hereditary-Environment Controversy*, in 1978, and *Before Head Start: The Iowa Station and America’s Children*, in 1993. He edited four other volumes and wrote numerous articles. At the time of his death, he was working on a third scholarly monograph, tentatively titled *Designing Humanity: The Social and Behavioral Sciences in America*, under contract with Johns Hopkins University Press.

During his career at Iowa State, he held appointments as a visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution at Stanford, as a Fulbright Distinguished Professor at the University of Göttingen, and later at the Universities of Bonn and Cologne. He was a visiting scholar at the Max-Planck-Institute for History in Göttingen, scholar-in-residence at Tohoku University in Japan, and a Fulbright distinguished scholar at the Roosevelt Study Center in the Netherlands. After his retirement from Iowa State in 2010, he was affiliated with the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Department at the University of Minnesota.

He is survived by his wife, Carole Davis Kazmierski; his daughter, Heather Watne; and his son, Chris Cravens, as well as two stepsons; four grandchildren; and his sister, Virginia Vater.
After several frustrating months of illness, Larry Curtis passed from us on January 21, 2016. Larry is remembered by his wife, Pam Rennie Curtis, his children and their spouses, Lexa and Jim and Chad and Jennifer, his grandchildren Clara, Adeline, Spencer, and Lauren, his brother and sister-in-law, Dan and Connie Curtis, and his father Raymond, as well as countless friends, colleagues, clients, and students. Larry was a dedicated public servant, beginning with his service to our country in Vietnam, for which he earned a Bronze Star, and continuing with many years' service to the City of Ames, including as mayor from 1990 to 1997. His devotion to service took other forms as well, leading to 41 years shaping the minds of business students at Iowa State University, where tens of thousands of students took his business law classes. He also maintained a law practice in Ames, where he used his extraordinary mind to help his clients as an attorney.

As those who knew him are aware, though, his true passions were family, cooking, Iowa State athletics, and last but surely not least, golf. Larry was happiest, when he was able to combine those things he loved most: tailgating with family and friends in the backyard before ISU football games, coaching his children's little league and softball teams, experiencing new places and tastes while traveling, and racking up his 10 hole in ones. His impact on the City of Ames and the ISU community will, hopefully, be long felt. His influence on his family and friends will, without question, be missed, but will be fondly and frequently recalled.

Born Melba Dee Zimmerman in Larned, Kansas, she is survived by her sons and their spouses, John (Sandy), Mike (Dawn) and Lance (Karen); eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sisters Zora Weir and Carrie Lou Biddle.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband of 68 years, Fred; infant daughter, Jean; and sister, Maxine Caley.

Melba attended Kansas State University, where she met and married Fred Foreman. They raised their family in Ames, where both taught at Iowa State University. They retired to Arizona in 1985.

Family and friends will miss her quiet sense of humor and her constant, unwavering love.

Melba began her career at Iowa State University as an Instructor in the Library in September, 1967 and retired as an Assistant Professor in May, 1985. In a May 8, 1985 letter from the Dean of Library Services, Warren B. Kuhn, he commended her for more than eighteen years of excellent contributions and dedicated service to the Library, stating her most generous and thoughtful concern to students and colleagues and an outstanding willingness to shoulder burdens and always go that “extra mile”. Above all, her devotion and thoughtful support of the Library’s mission has been exemplary.
Karl Friederich played a key role as a faculty member in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (now the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication) at Iowa State University. Karl joined the faculty in the fall of 1967 as an assistant professor with a half-time teaching and half-time extension appointment. He arrived from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was working toward his Ph.D. in Mass Communications, and also had significant newspaper and international communication expertise. His extension work carried him through 1975, after which he had a full-time appointment in the department.

Karl’s international experience and interests led him to become involved with a growing university interest in global affairs. He was named chair of the university’s International Studies program in 1973 and continued in that role for the next 13 years. He and other journalism faculty members launched the Department’s first European Study Program in 1976, and he helped direct this program over the next six even-numbered years. Students received academic credit plus invaluable contacts and training through the program. At Iowa State, Karl taught the Department’s international communication course, and advised many international graduate student thesis projects.

Karl is probably best known by many of his former students for developing and teaching public relations courses in the Department, and he built the foundation for what is now a stand-alone Public Relations major in the Greenlee School. The emphasis was on development of highly ethical media/company relationships. In dealings with students, businesses and university colleagues, Karl practiced what he taught. He was straightforward and direct – you always knew exactly where he stood. His high ethics and management skills also were recognized outside the University. He served as co-chair of the Republican Party of Story County. Karl was not always on the same side of issues as other faculty members. In one case, Karl was in charge of communication for a campaign to privatize the City of Ames electric utility, while Democrat Bill Kunerth was running the opposition campaign. Both men continued to be close friends over the years despite their opposing political ideologies. When members of the faculty decided to form an educational investment club, Karl was selected to be its treasurer, and served for almost 20 years.

In the Department, Karl played a vital role as adviser and later chair of the Bomb Yearbook Publication Board, and also served six years as a faculty representative to the Daily Publication Board. He was an expert in financial, production, and journalistic aspects for both of these publications. He also served as adviser to the local PRSSA chapter.

Those of us who had the privilege to work with Karl know that while he could be gruff on occasion, he cared deeply about us and our program. As can be seen by the many responsibilities he willingly shouldered, he saw what needed to be done, and he did it cheerfully and skillfully. When faculty who made a difference here are remembered, Karl is certainly one of them.-- By Eric Abbott, Professor, Greenlee School
Karl A. Gschneidner Jr., 85, passed away April 27, 2016.

Karl Gschneidner was an Anson Marston Distinguished Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Iowa State University, and a senior metallurgist of the Ames Laboratory, U. S. Department of Energy. He was the founding Director of the Rare Earth Information Center from 1966 to 1996. In January 2016, he retired from his position as Chief Scientist of the Critical Materials Institute at the Ames Laboratory.

Karl earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Detroit in 1952 and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University in 1957. He was at the Los Alamos National Laboratory from 1957 to 1963 and joined Iowa State University in 1963.

Gschneidner was considered the world’s foremost authority of rare earth science, technology, application and utilization. He published over 531 papers in peer reviewed journals, holds 15 patents, and gave over 336 invited presentations. He was the founding and senior editor of the 41-volume series of the Handbook on the Physics and Chemistry of Rare Earths, a position he retired from in 2011.

He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2007 for “contributions to the science and technology of rare earth materials,” and received more than 25 awards and honors, including fellowships in five professional societies.

“Our work on the giant magnetocaloric effect of gadolinium-silicon-germanium has been cited more than 2,100 times,” Gschneidner said at the time of his retirement, “so you could say we really hit the jackpot with that one. Finding something new or unexpected is what makes it worthwhile,” he added. “It’s kind of like hitting a great drive in golf; it keeps you coming back.”

“Karl has been an inspiration and a mentor to so many of us at Ames Laboratory and around the world,” said Ames Laboratory Director Adam Schwartz. “As a researcher, I read many of Karl’s papers as they related to my own work, and when the Critical Materials Energy Innovation Team first came together during the proposal process, I had my first opportunity to work directly with him. His incredible knowledge of rare earth science was astonishing, but what is more remarkable was his willingness to help everyone around him do their best. We will miss Karl.”

It was his renown as “Mr. Rare Earth” that led to the establishment of the Critical Materials Institute, a U.S. Department of Energy Innovation Hub located at the Ames Laboratory. Gschneidner testified before a Congressional committee about the need for such a research center and later served as the first chief scientist for CMI.
Charles (Chuck) Handy, passed away January 4, 2016. Chuck was the founding Dean of Iowa State’s College of Business. Chuck was a good friend to Iowa State, to the College of Business and to the many students he taught and mentored during his career in higher education.

He was born on April 26, 1924, in Coffey, Mo., the son of Herbert Franklin and Laura Ada (Mueller) Handy. He was a World War II Navy veteran. Chuck came to Iowa State University in 1958 as an instructor in the Department of Industrial Administration. For two decades following, he taught and advised a countless number of students interested in careers in the accounting profession. In 1975 he was promoted to the rank of professor and, for the next three years, served as the first director of the new Industrial Administrative Sciences graduate program.

Chuck was named the Department Chair of Industrial Administration in 1978, and subsequently led the department to being named a School of Business in 1980 (the first School at Iowa State) and ultimately, the College of Business in 1984. He provided vital leadership through that important transition. During his five years as Dean, Chuck carried out his vision to develop a foundation of high quality programs supported by outstanding faculty, staff and students.

Many people know Chuck from his regular columns in the College of Business’ Prospectus magazine. On the last page of each issue, he wrote “From the Desk of Founding Dean Charles Handy.” In his final article, he left us with these words:

“One of the great joys of my life has been my association with Iowa State University academic business program. I joined it during its infancy and, along with other dedicated personnel, helped to establish a solid program base. Its growth has been one to look to with pride. I see a great future for business education at Iowa State.”

Dr. Handy is survived by his wife, Mary C. Handy of Independence, Iowa; two daughters: Leigh Elliott of Visalia, Calif. and Karen (Dan) Garland of Solon, Iowa; one son, Mark Handy of Oklahoma City, Okla.; a grandson, Evan Handy; and a daughter-in-law, Debra Handy of Oklahoma City, Okla. He is also survived by one step daughter, Mary (David) Lyle of Overland Park, Kan.; two step sons: John (Mary Jo) McGrane of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Andrew (Debra) McGrane of Kildeer, Illinois; seven step grandchildren; and two step great grandchildren.
Ruth Elizabeth Pierce Hughes Moyer

Dr. Hughes (Moyer) began her tenure at Iowa State University (ISU) in 1971 and retired in 1986 as the Head of Home Economics Education (now Family and Consumer Sciences Education in the Human Development and Family Studies Department) and Mary B. Welch Distinguished Professor of Home Economics. Prior to coming to ISU, she was on the faculty of West Virginia University. Earlier in her life, she served in the U.S. Navy in Gainesville, GA from 1944-46 and taught high school home economics education in upstate New York until 1965. She served as a teaching assistant at Cornell University while completing her Ph.D. She earned her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. from Cornell University.

As the head of the Department of Home Economics Education, Dr. Hughes worked with the home economics consultants in the Iowa Department of Public Instruction to establish evaluation tools used to determine the effectiveness of Iowa’s consumer and homemaking education programs. This work continued at the national level. She was active in and honored by many professional and academic societies and consulted internationally on home economics curriculum development, including advising UNESCO.

As one of her graduate students, I remember her tenacity, leadership and support of my learning experiences that were significant in my professional growth as a family and consumer sciences professional.

In her retirement, she married James Moyer, volunteered for social service entities in Ames, Iowa; golfed, swam, played bridge regularly; and traveled extensively before relocating to Florida in 2002. From 2010 through January 2016, she resided at the Marjorie Doyle Rockwell Center in Cohoes, NY.

She passed peacefully on Monday afternoon, February 22, 2016, at the Baptist Health Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Scotia, NY. She was born on September 2, 1919, to Gilbert D. and Elizabeth Bennett Pierce of Bridgewater, NY.

She is survived by a daughter, Betty Ann Hughes (Warren Sheldon) of Scotia, NY; granddaughter, Amelia Davies Robinson (Bryan K.) of Alliance, OH, and their children; grandson, Bryan John Davies of Remsen, NY, and his sons; and several dozen “academic daughters, friends and professional colleagues.” In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Grace (Pierce) Risley; younger daughter, Carol E. Hughes; husband, James W. Moyer; and former husband, Walter E. Hughes.

Obituary from Glenville Funeral Home, Glenville, NY with modifications

Submitted by Barbara Woods, Ph.D., CFCS (former graduate student) and Margaret Torrie, Ed.D., CFCS Retired
Elizabeth S. Rectanus, who retired in 2013 from WLC after 16 years, passed away at the age of 66 on January 8, 2016 in Ames. At the time of her retirement, Elizabeth was the sole academic adviser in the Department of World Languages and Cultures, and for many years she also was a lecturer of German. Elizabeth was born in Springfield, MA, earned a B.S. in Biology and J.D. in Law at the University of Mississippi. After law school, Elizabeth worked for the Legislative Audit Committee in the Mississippi State Legislature. Later, she received an M.A. in German from Mississippi State University and continued graduate studies at Washington University in St. Louis where she met her husband, Mark. Mark and Elizabeth were married in Munich, Germany and moved to Ames where they became members of the faculty at ISU.

As an adviser, Elizabeth was caring and dedicated. She was known to put her students first, and work on their behalf to resolve their problems, listen to their concerns, or offer helpful advice. Of special note was her passion for study abroad, and many students studied in countries across the world because of Elizabeth’s influence. As a teacher, she had a strong classroom presence and a love for the German language and culture. She shared her own experiences in learning German and French with students and that inspired many of them to continue their studies at ISU and abroad. Students often comment on the impact Elizabeth had on their lives.

On a personal level, Elizabeth was thoughtful, fun, and she had a great sense of humor and an absolute love for travel and cooking. Many WLC faculty enjoyed Elizabeth’s great stories about visiting New Orleans or living in Germany, or the many other places she loved to visit.

Although we are profoundly saddened by this loss to the WLC family, we nonetheless celebrate Elizabeth’s life and remember her commitment to WLC and ISU. In that spirit, the Department has sponsored The Elizabeth Rectanus Memorial Scholarship in her honor. This fund will provide a scholarship to help students studying abroad in Germany. Contributions to the Elizabeth Rectanus Memorial Scholarship, can be made by contacting the ISU Foundation or made directly at the link: http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/rectanus Any amount is of great value to the students who will benefit from this scholarship opportunity.
Memorial Resolution for Donald Sanderson

Professor Donald Sanderson died on January 17, 2016 at the age of 89. He was living in Torrey, Utah at the time.

Professor Sanderson was born in 1926 in Oskaloosa, Iowa; graduated in 1949 from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa; received his master’s degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1951; and his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1953. He came to Iowa State as an instructor in 1953 and was promoted to professor in 1964. He retired in 1991.

Professor Sanderson introduced “general topology” to the Iowa State graduate program in mathematics. In the 1950s he taught that course from John L. Kelley’s book General Topology, first published in 1955. Professor Sanderson’s publications were mainly in the area of general topology. He directed several undergraduate theses, some of which were published in the Pi Mu Epsilon Journal. At least two of these theses were awarded prizes as “best paper of the year.”
Memorial Resolution for George Seifert

George Seifert, of Ames, 94, died on Dec. 17, 2015, at Green Hills Retirement Community in Ames. George was born March 4, 1921, in Jena, Germany, to Max and Frieda Seifert. His family immigrated to the United States in 1926 and became naturalized citizens. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Albany State Teachers College in 1942. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he earned a master’s degree in 1948 and a doctorate in 1950 from Cornell University. Working under William Feller, he wrote his dissertation on Duffing’s Equation.

George took a position at the University of Nebraska and came to Iowa State in 1955. He served as chair of the Department of Mathematics from 1964 to 1966. He was instrumental in obtaining two federal grants to build Carver Hall to house and improve the applied mathematics program at ISU. A productive researcher, he worked on ordinary differential equations and branched out into the newly invigorated area of almost periodic solutions and the new area of delay differential equations. He supervised eight doctoral students and wrote over 90 published papers. Even after forced retirement in 1991 he continued his research activity.

George was a skilled tennis player, extending his game well into his eighties. Taking annual tennis trips to Florida, he won several amateur tournaments. His other passion was classical music, especially opera and chamber music.

He had a long and happy marriage to Bertha Scheffel Seifert, who preceded him in death. Surviving are two sons and their wives, Curt Seifert and Sarah Nettels, of Kansas City, Mo., and Edward Seifert and Nancy Cameron, of Shoreview, Minn., and two grandchildren, Katherine and Eric Seifert.
Longtime Journalism Professor Dwight Teeter Dies at 80

KNOXVILLE—Dwight L. Teeter Jr., 80, a journalism educator for more than four decades, an expert and author on media law and journalism history, and a mentor to countless graduate students, died Feb. 27 in Knoxville, Tennessee, following a long illness.

He retired from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, at the end of 2014 after nearly 50 years of university teaching at seven American universities. Teeter was dean of UT’s College of Communications from 1991 to 2002 and returned to full-time teaching in 2003. Prior to that, he was a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; the William P. Hobby Centennial Professor of Communication and chair of the Department of Journalism at the University of Texas at Austin; professor and acting chair of the School of Journalism at the University of Kentucky; associate professor at the University of Wisconsin; visiting associate professor at the University of Washington; and assistant professor at Iowa State University.
He began his journalism career as a reporter with the Waterloo (Iowa) Daily Courier with occasional stints as editor for the city, wire and state desks.

UT Journalism Professor Ed Caudill told UT's student newspaper, the Daily Beacon that Teeter "loved Mexican food, dirty jokes, fly fishing and the First Amendment. Not necessarily in that order."

A legal scholar and historian, Teeter co-authored 13 editions of "Law of Mass Communication," a widely used college textbook first published in 1969. His preface to the 13th edition reflects the impact in the United States of "what seems to be a perpetual state of war" and of technological changes, new media and social media on communications law. "Citizens and communication law issues multiply as government and law enforcement agencies use 'national security' as a blanket excuse for increasing official secrecy. Privacy interests continue to collide with intrusive media activities, governmental snooping and private businesses' quest to strip privacy from individuals in the name of better marketing strategies."

Teeter was the founding author of the textbook with the late Professor Harold L. Nelson of the University of Wisconsin. Don R. LeDuc, professor emeritus of communication at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, joined Teeter for the seventh (1992) and eighth (1998) editions. Bill Loving, professor of journalism at California State Polytechnic University, joined both Teeter and LeDuc for the ninth edition in 1998 and remained for the succeeding editions with Teeter. The textbook heads toward its 14th edition and its 46th anniversary in 2015.

Teeter also wrote media law and history books and articles with several of the top scholars in his field.

Teeter was president of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication from 1986 to 1987. In 1973, he co-founded the Law Division with the late Professor Donald M. Gillmor of the University of Minnesota. As clerk of the division, he started the newsletter now known as Media Law Notes. In 1968, he started the history division newsletter, Clio Among the Media.

Teeter has served on the editorial boards of Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly, Communication Law and Policy, Mass Communication Review and Journalism Monographs. He was the associate editor of American National Biography. He was a founding member and served on the editorial board of Critical Studies in Mass Communication.

In 1991, he received the Society of Professional Journalists Distinguished Teaching Award. In 2006, he received the Hazel Dicken-Garcia Distinguished Journalism Historian Award, presented at UT Chattanooga during the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War and Free Expression. In 2001, he received the Distinguished Service Award from AEJMC.
Teeter taught six Pulitzer Prize winners over the years. He sent Associated Press photographer Neal Ulevich a congratulatory note after his Pulitzer Prize award, jokingly taking credit for Ulevich's success. Ulevich, ever the quick wit, responded that he had to settle for a Pulitzer, saying that knowing Teeter cost him the Nobel Prize.

Along with his teaching in the United States, Teeter lectured at the Norwegian Institute of Journalism in Fredrikstad, the Dutch School of Journalism at Utrecht, the Danish School of Journalism in Aarhus and the Napier University School of Journalism in Edinburgh.

Teeter, who never hid his admiration for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, loved to tell about shaking hands, at age 10, with the then-California governor when Warren visited Avenal, California, to dedicate a community hospital.

"I haven't washed this hand since," Teeter would quip.

To pay for his education while studying for his bachelor's degree in journalism at the University of California, Berkeley, Teeter spent summers working as a roustabout for Standard Oil Company of California in the Kettleman Hills oil fields.

Teeter continued his education at Berkeley, studying for a master's degree in journalism. Anticipating a U.S. Supreme Court decision on the constitutionality of anti-obscenity laws in Roth v. United States, Teeter attempted to gather information for his master's thesis in Boalt Hill, Berkeley's law school library. Law school Dean William L. Prosser threw him out of the library, saying only law school students could use it.

After inviting legendary California defense lawyer Jake Ehrlich to speak to the student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Teeter related the story about Prosser's ban of the law library. Ehrlich snorted contemptuously, "The problem with Cal's law faculty was that the professors do not know the difference between Blackstone, the legal authority, and the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago where you used to be able to get laid for $5." He then invited Teeter to use the law books in his office.

Teeter completed his education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a doctorate in mass communications with specializations in American history and law.

Teeter was a proud member of the Truckee-Donner Historical Society and loved to research his family history in Truckee, California. Teeter's great-grandfather Jacob (Jake) Teeter grew up in New Jersey but migrated west and settled in Truckee, where he became a constable responsible for Truckee and the entire eastern end of Nevada County. Jake Teeter gained a reputation as a tough lawman and was well respected, but was shot to death in a gun battle in 1891. He is buried in Truckee's cemetery. Teeter wanted his and wife Tish's cremains buried with Jake in Truckee.
Teeter's wife of 54 years, Letitia (Tish) Thoreson Teeter, of Bismarck, North Dakota, died in 2009. He is survived by three children, Susan Teeter Hall and husband Michael Hall of Alexandria, Virginia; John (Jack) Thoreson Teeter and wife Geralynn DelGiudice Teeter of Crozet, Virginia; and William (Bill) Weston Teeter of Marble Falls, Texas, as well as one grandson, Jonathan William Teeter of Crozet, Virginia.

Arrangements for a celebration of life will be announced soon.

Contributions in Teeter's memory may be given to the Truckee-Donner Historical Society, PO Box 893, Truckee, CA 96160.

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CONTACT:

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John G. Verkade, University Professor Emeritus, passed away April 6, 2016, at the age of 81. Born January 15, 1935, in Chicago to Dutch immigrant parents, John received his B.S. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign in 1956. After receiving his M.A. degree at Harvard University in 1957, he returned to the University of Illinois where he received his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry in 1960. In the same year, he joined the ISU chemistry faculty as an Instructor, which was the normal starting appointment at that time. He was subsequently promoted to Assistant Professor (1962), Associate Professor (1966), Professor (1971), and University Professor (1997).

John was widely-known for his research in organic compounds that contain phosphorus atoms. Several of these compounds behave as very strong bases that catalyze a variety of reactions. The most famous of these “superbases” is “Verkade’s base”, which is cited extensively in the chemical literature and used by chemists around the world as a catalyst for the synthesis of numerous organic compounds. John published more than 425 scientific papers on his research, which included the work of many students (25 BS, 18 MS, 37 PhD, and 60 Postdocs) whose research was guided by John. He presented lectures on his research studies at universities and conferences around the world. John also sought practical applications of his research discoveries by working on projects that led to 21 patents.

He taught chemistry courses ranging from general chemistry to graduate courses in special topics in inorganic chemistry. In his general chemistry courses, he especially enjoyed sprinkling his lectures with dramatic experiments such as explosions and unexpected color changes. He was also known to regularly include a joke, which often elicited groans from his freshman students. His theatrical tendencies extended to trumpet fanfares for retiring faculty members and special ceremonies in the chemistry department. He shared his musical talents on the trumpet, piano, and organ with many organizations at ISU and in the Ames community.

He was also very active at the national level in the American Chemical Society (ACS), an organization of 160,000 chemists. He served on the Board of Directors, as well as on publications, grants, and education committees. His contributions to chemistry were recognized by awards from the ACS, ISU and other scientific organizations.

He is survived by his wife Charlene, his three children, and four grandchildren.