

**Memorial Resolution – Joanne Conger**  
**August 15, 1933 – September 20, 2021**

For over twenty-five years, Joanne R. Conger guided students in the medical and surgical care of adults and was considered a model of stellar clinical teachers. She died on September 20, 2021, at her home in Madison, Wisconsin at the age of 88. Joanne was born August 15, 1933, in Rockford, Illinois. She graduated from Augustana Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago in 1955. She continued her education at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois where in 1957, she received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. She taught nursing students at the Swedish American Hospital School of Nursing in Rockford, Illinois and subsequently returned to school attending Syracuse University in New York State where she received a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) in 1964. In 1964, she joined the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing as faculty.

Throughout her career, Joanne was committed to teaching undergraduate nursing students and known to have high expectations for clinical practice. She expected students to come prepared to provide the best care possible to their patients. She frequently quizzed students regarding medications, plans for care and expectations of their care. She was known to cause trepidation as students anticipated a clinical experience. Students and graduates would say Joanne taught them to become excellent providers of care and valued the lessons they learned from her throughout their careers.

In December of 1972, a disastrous earthquake struck Central America. The National School of Nursing in Managua, Nicaragua was destroyed and reopening it required rebuilding the library. Professor Conger led other faculty members of the UW-Madison School of Nursing in assisting with this effort. Not only were there significant monetary contributions made for restoring the library, but Professor Conger, also along with another faculty member, went to Nicaragua and conducted a two-week workshop for faculty.

Professor Conger continued her commitment to community service by reaching out to friends in need and through her active participation at the Midvale Community Lutheran Church. Professor Conger instilled excellence in nursing practice in the students she taught. These expectations have contributed to generations of outstanding nursing care.

The Memorial Resolution Committee  
Professor Emerita Patricia Lasky  
UW-Madison School of Nursing