

Memorial Resolution – Arthur O. Hove II
July 21, 1934 – December 9, 2014

Art Hove didn't just love the UW–Madison, he lived it. Born and raised in Chicago and Sioux City, Iowa, with his summers spent at his parents' ancestral home in Stoughton, WI, "to protect me from the savagery of the big city," Art Hove was drawn to Madison and the University of Wisconsin and applied for admission as a high school sophomore.

After receiving his BA in English, he served a stint in the US Army, and then returned to the UW as editor of the Wisconsin Alumnus while pursuing his MA in English. He was first hired to assist UW President Fred Harvey Harrington in 1967 and went on to assist chancellors, vice presidents and provosts until his retirement in 1996. He was the Director of the Office of Public Information from 1989-1996. He also lectured in the Schools of Business and of Journalism and Mass Communication and in the Department of Art.

His campus legacy begins with strong friendships. Art knew everybody, from Bascom Hall to the shop guys, plumbers and electricians. He took advantage of informal gatherings to discuss what was going on, defusing the tension with legendarily bad puns. These actions set the tone for his career: stepping back for perspective while bringing factions together. Art was both the "oil" and the "glue" – sort of a paradoxical juxtaposition. When a professor, dean or chancellor needed to know what an outcome should be, he could help them chart a course because he knew more of the components of this complex institution than anyone else. That was the oil. But he could show you how to stick things together and keep things working. That was the glue.

Hove gained recognition as a chronicler of university history. He published several books, including "The University of Wisconsin: A Pictorial History"; "The First Fifteen years: 1984-1999" about the University Research Park; and "Progressive Printmakers: Wisconsin Artists and the Print Renaissance" (co-authored with Warrington Colescott). Chancellor Irving Shain said, "He made some really important contributions in those books. His love for the university was enormous. Many of us took an important lesson from Art in noting how important the institution was to him. That was more important than anything else, I think." From 1973-86 he contributed quarterly essays to the Wisconsin Academy Review, a series of which were broadcast over the State Radio Network.

In 1992 Art received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UW Alumni Association for his leadership and contributions in various civic organizations. Among these were: the United Madison Community Foundation, Friends of UW-Madison Libraries, the Madison Civic Music Association, the Madison-Oslo Sister City Committee, and the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. During his retirement, he edited the Tandem Press Newsletter and served on the UW Campus Design Review Board.

Sacred to Art for 40 years was his noon run with a group of buddies into Shorewood, Picnic Point and the Arboretum. "Art's Plaque", a gift from that group, rests in a rock at the tip of Picnic Point, burnished by runners who touch it every day.

With the passing of Art Hove, the University of Wisconsin lost a wise counselor and a person with deep and abiding affection for this University.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H. Williams, Professor Emeritus, Plant Pathology

Some language used in this document has been contributed by Susannah Brooks and W. Lee Hansen, Prof Emeritus