

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS DONALD M. BOONE SR.

Dr. Donald Milford Boone Sr., age 84, died on January 18, 2002 at his home from complications due to cancer. He is survived by his wife, Osea, daughters, Gloria Boone and Cynthia Boone Walley, son, Donald Boone Jr. and five grandchildren. Don was born in Phoenix, Arizona on January 7, 1918. He attended Miltonvale Wesleyan College from 1936 until 1938; Marion College from 1939 to 1940, earning a B. A. and B.S. in education; University of Cincinnati from 1941 to 1942; and the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1946 to 1949, earning a Ph.D. in plant pathology. Don was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during and post-World War II from 1942 to 1946. He served three of his four years in the South Pacific and Japan on minesweeping and anti-submarine patrol and was commanding officer on two ships. In 1949 Dr. Boone was appointed project associate at UW-Madison in the Department of Plant Pathology. He became assistant professor in 1956, associate professor in 1960 and full professor in 1969. During the course of his career, Don authored 52 research and 17 extension publications. His research was published in numerous scientific and trade journals. He retired in 1983 and was awarded emeritus status the following year.

Dr. Boone made substantial contributions to the biology and control of diseases of cranberries, apples, cherries and small fruits during his 34 years of service to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Early in his career, he established an impressive research program on the genetics of pathogenicity of the apple scab fungus *Venturia inaequalis* and became a recognized national leader on the genetics of this pathogen. His collection of mutants of *V. inaequalis* is an important contribution to the American Type Culture Collection inventory and has been used by breeders to develop apple varieties resistant to scab, the most important disease of apple worldwide. In the early 1960's, Dr. Boone initiated a major research program on diseases of cranberries. This resulted in the characterization of several new pathogens on this crop. A highly competent mycologist, Dr. Boone and his students cleared up confusion in the taxonomy and epidemiology of important cranberry pathogens, which led to more appropriate disease management practices. Effective disease management strategies were critical to the growth and financial stability of the Wisconsin cranberry industry. His hands-on and practical problem solving approach, and his quiet, unassuming nature, endeared him to the many cranberry growers in Wisconsin. His career embodied and reinforced the importance of the "Wisconsin Idea". After retiring he maintained an active selection program on growers' marshes for development of improved cranberry cultivars. He served as a consultant for Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association, and the U.S.S.R. government. He traveled to the Soviet Union 12 times to advise them in the cultivation of cranberry. He was just 75 kilometers from Chernobyl at the time of the accident. Dr. Boone's numerous, substantive, and enduring contributions to the cranberry industry were noted when he received the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association Service to Industry award in 2001.

Don was a member of the American Phytopathological Association, the International Botanical Society, the Wesleyan Church, Naval Minewarfare Association, the North American Fishing Club, Walleye Wallopers and Wisconsin Old Friends.

Don was an avid hunter, fisherman and taxidermist and had an extensive display of mounted birds, mammals and fish. He also collected antique cranberry scoops and harvesting equipment, apple peelers, cherry pitters and nutcrackers.

(continued)

Dr. Boone will long be remembered for his dedicated service to the cranberry and fruit industries of the state and for a lifetime of contributions to his department, college, university and community. He will be missed by his family, professional colleagues, and the fruit growers who benefited so much from his work and collegiality.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Donald Hagedorn

Patricia McManus

Walter Stevenson, Chair