

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

ON THE DEATH OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR HERMAN F. KARREMAN

Professor Emeritus Herman F. Karreman died on January 9, 1999 at Elderhaus in Dodgeville, Wisconsin, at the age of 85. Professor Karreman was born in 1913 in the Netherlands, the oldest of three sons. The family lived in Indonesia until he was eight years old. Although his parents moved the family to the Netherlands for their son's education, he returned to Indonesia in his early adult years where he worked for the Dutch Royal Packaging Company. During this time he also married Leendrina (Helen) van Kempen, and they began their family.

When World War II started, he served in the Dutch Armed Forces in Indonesia. The area where the family was stationed was soon occupied by the Japanese. He and Helen, and their two-year-old daughter, became prisoners of war, and were held in several prison camps for the next three and a half years. Occasionally he saw his wife and child, but had very little contact with his family during this time. He helped build railroads, temples, and bridges for his captors. As with many other prisoners, he suffered numerous incidents of abuse, illnesses - including malaria and malnutrition - and faced death on several occasions. During a sea transport, his ship was torpedoed. Herman and other prisoners were in the bottom of the ship when it started filling with water. In a panic, they tried to climb the stairs at the same time and abandon the ship. Many who were unable to swim went down with the ship. Herman could swim and helped many other men jump and hang onto pieces of floating debris. For the three days they were in the water they feared that great white sharks would end their lives. None appeared.

After the war, the family was reunited and returned to the Netherlands where they experienced a long period of recovery. As soon as his health permitted, Herman resumed his studies in econometrics in the Netherlands School of Economics at the University of Rotterdam. He received his doctorate in 1949, studying with Professor Tinbergen. Tinbergen was one of the joint recipients of the first Nobel Prize in Economics. In 1954, the family came to the United States where Herman began his U.S. academic career as a research associate in the Econometric Research program at Princeton University.

In 1960, Professor Karreman received the Lanchester Prize for his paper, "Programming the Supply of a Strategic Material -- Part I. A Nonstochastic Model," *Naval Research Logistics Quarterly*, 7, pp. 261-279 (1960). This prestigious prize is awarded annually, when merited, for the best contribution to operations research and the management sciences published in English. The award committee cited the paper as "a careful translation of an operational situation into precise mathematical form ... (which) shows considerable originality and insight. There is almost constant interplay between the physical system and mathematical model during this process.... The problem considered is a significant one involving tremendous expenditures and therefore correspondingly great savings."

Professor Karreman joined the Mathematics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1963. He received tenure in both the School of Business and the Department of Industrial Engineering during his career. In the latter years, he directed Ph.D. dissertations and taught operations research and mathematical analysis courses in the School of Business. He retired in 1988.

Following the death of his first wife, Professor Karreman married Els Visser in 1974. They adopted Asha and Ben, from India, and raised the children together until his development of Alzheimer's disease in 1992. Along with Els, he was survived by his children, Asha Karreman, Ben Karreman, Marianne Douwes-Karreman, and Arthur Karreman (now deceased), and one grandson, Xavier Douwes.

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After retirement, Professor Karreman remained active and enjoyed soccer, jogging, hiking, and nature study. He set about to amass a major collection of classic books related to operations research. Eventually, he happily proclaimed to Els that "It is finished!" The collection has been given to the School of Business. He also actively studied Hebrew, Greek, and Latin in preparation for the study of theology, for which he had an enduring interest. Professor Karreman possessed a great love for learning and teaching that resulted in deep and enduring respect from his students, many of whom became life-long friends. He believed that life was an opportunity to enrich the mind, and he energetically encouraged and supported those who were eager to learn.

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