

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ALFRED GLAUSER

Professor Emeritus of French Alfred Glauser passed away suddenly and peacefully on Sunday March 9, 2003 at his retirement home, Les Coquelicots, in Saint-Cannat, near Aix-en-Provence, France. At the time of his death, Professor Glauser was in good health and in full command of his intellectual faculties: he had just published his ninth book, *Écriture et désécriture du texte poétique : De Maurice Scève à Saint-John Perse*, in 2002 and had begun work on another, at the age of ninety.

A noted French literary scholar, critic, and teacher, as well as a published novelist, Glauser's work and renown ranged from Renaissance studies to contemporary literature. He leaves behind a legacy of scholars who trained with him—including current professors at Harvard, Princeton, and Dartmouth among many others—along with legions of friends, admirers, and former colleagues. His humor, hospitality, and generosity remain legendary.

Born in St. Imier, Switzerland on February 24, 1913, Alfred Glauser received a “licence-ès-lettres” from the University of Geneva in 1935, before accepting several teaching positions in Canada. He came to the University of Wisconsin as a lecturer in 1946, obtained his Ph.D. here in 1947, and remained a member of the UW faculty from that year until his retirement in 1983. Among his many awards, Alfred Glauser was named Chevalier des Palmes académiques by the French government in 1959 (and promoted to Officier in 1991), was awarded a Gugenheim fellowship in 1965, received a UW distinguished teaching award in 1977, and was named Pickard-Bascom Professor of French in 1981. In 1979 he was presented a Festschrift entitled *Textes et intertextes. Etudes sur le XVIe siècle pour Alfred Glauser*; contributors included renowned Renaissance scholars from around the world, many of whom had trained with Glauser here at UW-Madison.

Thoroughly devoted to the University of Wisconsin, Alfred Glauser saw it as a community of scholars and indeed made it so. He was in his office from dawn to dusk, every day, including weekends, and his door was always open. In addition to literature courses, he always taught language courses, to keep in touch with the needs of French students at all levels. He directed French plays and often acted in them. He served as director of the Michigan-Wisconsin Junior Year in France program in Aix-en-Provence in 1968-69. He was a frequent visitor and contributor to the French House. He gladly shared course materials with colleagues, read and proof-read their manuscripts, and asked their advice on his own work. Alfred's fondness for his adopted home town was such that whenever he traveled to Paris he stayed at the Hotel Madison.

Professor Glauser is survived by his sister, Madame Berthe Aschwanden, and her family; by his sister-in-law, Madame Hélène Glauser, and her family; and by his devoted friend Floyd Gray, Professor Emeritus of the University of Michigan, and his wife Danièle Gray.

To paraphrase the ending of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, one of Alfred Glauser's favorite works, when a light of such magnitude is extinguished, the entire planet is dimmer.

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