

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

ON THE DEATH OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR EMERITUS ERNEST F. MANNER

Ernest F. Manner, whose teaching of engineering graphics at the UW-Madison began in 1958, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 1998. He was 75 years old.

Mr. Manner's academic career focused on the teaching of both introductory and advanced mechanical drawing and drafting, and descriptive geometry courses. His pedagogy relied heavily on his extensive experience in industry as a draftsman and mechanical designer. With a career spanning five decades, he mastered changing technologies within the field, from sepia and india ink drawings to computer-aided drafting (CAD) and computer-aided manufacturing (CAM).

Devotion to undergraduate teaching and careful attention to the development of the logical thought processes of students have exemplified Mr. Manner's academic career. While these traits are hard to quantify, they might be measured by the height of the stack of student engineering drawing assignments that he painstakingly graded on a daily basis. His dedication enriched the careers of several generations of UW-Madison engineering graduates.

Born in Passaic, New Jersey on July 8, 1923, Mr. Manner's career in industry began in 1941 as a draftsman for Finch Telecommunications, Inc. in his home state. For the next two years, he worked full time and attended engineering graphics courses at Stevens Institute of Technology. That career was interrupted by war-time military service with the US Army Air Force, which included assignments as a radio operator, air traffic controller, and radio mechanics instructor at Truax Field in Madison. He then resumed his engineering work with Finch for several years before returning to Madison to begin undergraduate studies at UW-Madison.

In 1953 Mr. Manner graduated in mechanical engineering (design option) and then returned to industry to work in turn for Federal Radio and Telephone, Bjorksten Laboratories, and Gisholt Machine Company. During this period, he also taught part-time at UW-Madison and Milwaukee School of Engineering. In 1958 he accepted a position as a full-time instructor in UW-Madison's Drawing and Descriptive Geometry Department. He achieved tenure as an assistant professor in 1964.

Among his teaching accomplishments are the creation of two drawing texts; gradual but complete changes in drawing instruction reflecting the advent of computers and computer-aided drafting; and development of a unique variant of the Socratic method of instruction that included compelling exhortations offered in a booming voice that could often be heard outside of the building. During his career in industry and academia, he developed particular expertise in dimensioning for precision manufacture and positional tolerancing. In his last three semesters of instruction, he gave computer-assisted lectures in the new Grainger Auditorium of Engineering Hall.

Mr. Manner's career has been exemplary in his patient, thorough and compassionate dedication shown to undergraduate students. Over the years he made an immeasurable impact on his engineering colleagues and generations of engineering students.

Service to the university included a term as faculty senator and contributions to departmental merit and curriculum committees. Mr. Manner's service to the community includes active participation in the Model A Restorers Club, including a term as regional director. He and his wife Bev were frequently seen in area parades in either their Model A coupe or sedan, the restoration of which reflects both his engineering skill and his attention to detail.

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After his thirty-eight year career, Mr. Manner retired from the mechanical engineering department in 1995 and then passed away on September 16, 1998. Though preceded in death by his son, Ernest Jr., he is survived by his wife Beverly and his other three children, Kim, Jo Ann, and Roger. His son Kim is a lecturer in the mechanical engineering department and continues to teach and modernize the same subjects to which his father dedicated his career.

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