

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

**ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS RUDOLF F. SIRNY**

Rudolf F. Sirny, emeritus professor of business, was born in Roxbury, Wisconsin, in 1923 and died in Ocala, Florida on October 5, 2002, as a result of kidney failure. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Sirny of Ocala, daughter Cynthia M. Voigt of Wisconsin Rapids, son William P. Sirny of Milwaukee, sister Helen M. Schaub of Chilton, and four grandchildren.

Joining the enlisted ranks of the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942, he served first as a flight engineer on B-17's and then as electrical specialist on B-29s. He was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant in 1946, after which he enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. There he received his B. S. degree in light building engineering and his M.B.A. in industrial management in 1950 and 1954, respectively. He then was employed for the next sixteen years with three different industrial companies in various manufacturing, engineering, supervisory, and management capacities before joining the faculty of University of Wisconsin Extension's Department of Business and Management in 1966.

In the Management Institute, he served as assistant, associate, and full professor and program director of Manufacturing Management Programs until his retirement in 1988, when he was awarded with professor emeritus status.

While serving the university, he was revered as the "most productive program director in the Management Institute" by his clients and colleagues. During his tenure, he developed and implemented over 30 new continuing education programs in production and inventory control, materials management, and manufacturing management. These programs were not only acclaimed by thousands of participants and clients; they also contributed significantly to improved quality, productivity, and competitiveness among manufacturers in Wisconsin, the Midwest, and the nation for over twenty years. A true advocate of the "Wisconsin Idea," he unstintingly provided expert service and counsel to the business community.

As an active member of the American Production and Inventory Control Society, he was instrumental in chartering the Madison chapter and served as its charter president. The Madison chapter subsequently received national recognition in its first year of existence for outstanding administration and activity.

In addition to his programming and service, Professor Sirny also published over thirty-five articles in professional journals relating to manufacturing, productivity, education, and inventory control.

Lastly, he served his department, school, and university always in an exemplary and professional manner, being there to help faculty and staff, young and older, learn from his wise, kindly, and considerate counsel.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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