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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS STANLEY J. PELOQUIN

Dr. Stanley J. Peloquin, age 87, passed away on July 27, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Virgie Peloquin; sons, Philip (Sherrie) Peloquin of Circleville, Ohio, John (Penelope) Peloquin of Madison, and James (Jene) Peloquin of Mesa, Arizona; grandchildren, Brandon Peloquin and Brienne (Brock) Vanover; great-grandchild, Blake Vanover; sister, Jeanne (Charles) Shultz of Monroe; Virgie's daughter, Dianne (Mark) Siegel of Atlanta, Georgia; grandchildren, Christopher (Lisa) Siegel, Julia Siegel, and Melissa Siegel; and great-grandchildren, Gavin and David Siegel. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Helga Peloquin.

Stan was born in Baron, Wisconsin, on July 22, 1921. He received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from River Falls State College. Following military service aboard a naval destroyer in the South Pacific during World War II, he returned to Wisconsin and earned a master's degree in biology from Marquette University. He then earned a second master's degree and a doctorate degree in genetics from UW-Madison. He taught biology at Marquette University for five years before joining the UW-Madison Department of Genetics in 1957. He joined the Department of Horticulture in 1962. He retired in 1994.

Stan was known worldwide for his contributions to potato genetics and breeding. His innovative research focused on mechanisms of chromosome manipulations and behavior, with an emphasis on applications to agriculture. His major research achievements include the development of haploid potato plants from unfertilized eggs; the utilization of reproductive cells with the parental chromosome number; the effective introgression of useful traits of wild relatives of potato; and the development of breeding strategies for the production of potatoes from botanical seed. Stan's broad experience in botany and genetics allowed him to integrate diverse concepts into an effective strategy for potato germplasm enhancement. Today, this strategy is used by potato breeding programs around the world. In recognition of his scientific achievements, he was appointed Campbell-Bascom Professor of Horticulture and Genetics in 1983, elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1984, conferred a lifetime membership in the Potato Association of America in 1986, and awarded an honorary degree from the University of Naples (Italy) in 2002.

Stan was an enthusiastic teacher, both in the classroom and as a mentor for graduate students. His passion for teaching will be remembered by all who knew him. He was the force behind the development of the Plant Breeding and Plant Genetics Graduate Program, which has consistently been considered to be among the most productive in the country. He also helped to develop the undergraduate Biology Core Curriculum and taught regularly in that program. During his career, Stan trained 98 graduate students from 34 countries and authored over 175 papers. Stan considered his students to be his academic offspring. As such, he created an impressive pedigree, with children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren holding major plant breeding positions around the world. Stan's greatest legacy is his students and their continuing contributions to our knowledge of plant genetic manipulations.

Stan will be missed by all who knew him and remembered for his enthusiasm as a teacher and fan of University of Wisconsin athletics, his dedication as a mentor and inspiration as a colleague.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Shelley Jansky
Jerry Kermicle
Philipp Simon, chair