

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS JAMES ALVIN MARKS

Professor James Marks was born in Wisconsin Rapids on October 9, 1926. He was a graduate of Depauw University and Purdue University. He passed away at the age of 82 on April 30, 2009 after a long illness.

He received the Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue in 1948 and a Master of Science in industrial engineering in 1951, also from Purdue.

James Marks joined the US Navy in 1944. After WWII, he actively served in the U.S. Naval Reserve and rose to the rank of lieutenant.

He began his career at the University of Wisconsin in 1956, teaching drawing and descriptive geometry. As a teacher of freshman and sophomore engineers, he played a key role in encouraging young students to develop a feel for engineering and helped them to develop the demanding focus of engineering students. He also served as a mentor to young teaching assistants and faculty beginning their careers in teaching engineering subjects.

Professor Marks is most remembered in the College of Engineering for his leadership in the development of the engineering placement service. He served as director of the Engineering Placement Office from 1970 until his retirement in 1981. He was responsible for building a strong recruiting bridge between the college's graduating students and industry. He was a member of the College Placement Association and served as president in 1972. He had an excellent reputation among the industrial representatives who came to campus and was admired for his organization and dedication. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was always ready to contribute to a discussion.

He was a long-time member of the Madison community and took on many responsibilities in community service. He was elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors for three terms, starting in 1957, and in 1961 he was elected to the Madison Common Council, serving two terms in office. Professor Marks was proud of his Norwegian heritage and was a member of the Sons of Norway, Torske Klubben of Madison, and a fellow in the Vesterheim Foundation.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
John Bollinger