

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROBERT D. BOYD

Robert D. (Bob) Boyd joined the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education faculty in 1962. Bob was born in 1923 and married Janet Scott in 1952. Janet Scott Boyd was a School of Nursing faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and then Department of Nursing Education administrator at Eastern Michigan University.

After receiving his PhD from the University of Chicago, Bob began his career in higher education as an assistant professor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He then joined the UW-Madison School of Education departments of educational psychology, curriculum and instruction, and the inter-college Department of Continuing and Vocational Education (CAVE). The enduring focus of his graduate teaching and scholarship included the application of psychological concepts of Erik Erikson, and Carl Jung to adult learning, and the evolving dynamics of small group behavior.

Bob met with interested advisees in a weekly seminar, which entailed spirited collegial discussion of varied topics including scholarly investigation, adult learning, and the common good. He and his students combined theory, careful observations, and in-depth investigations in the Laboratory for the Study of Small Groups that he directed, resulting in conclusions applied to adult learning and teaching.

He attracted students who shared his intense scholarly interest during their graduate study and careers. Bob was an outstanding mentor who was very supportive, and he invested much in his advisees. His assistance ranged from concepts about philosophy of science and research methodology to assistance with writing and co-authoring articles. His commitment to rigorous scholarship was reflected in his participation in the Commission of Professors of Adult Education. He served as chair of the Adult Education Research Conference, which he vigorously supported and where his doctoral students often presented their research. Together with colleagues from Northern Illinois University, Bob was also instrumental in the creation of the Midwest Research to Practice Conference, which for 30 years has continued to provide a venue and community for young scholars, graduate students, and scholarly practitioners working in adult education. He also served as editor of *Adult Education Quarterly*, the main scholarly journal in his field, co-edited a thought provoking book with faculty colleague J.W. Apps, entitled *Redefining the Field of Adult Education*, and with several of his former students, published *Personal Transformation in Small Groups: a Jungian Perspective*. His application of Jung's ideas to transformative learning has had a major impact on the theory and practice of transformative education.

Bob retired in 1990 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During the next two decades, Bob was active in social justice issues as a Gray Panther. He and his wife remained active by globe trotting, attending ballet and theater performances, and snow birding in Arizona. He died in Ann Arbor, Michigan in March 2011, and his wife Janet followed him three months later. They are survived by their three sons, Robert (Anne), Scott, and Keith (Julie), four grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Alan Knox