

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS IRVING W. KREUTZ

Professor Emeritus Irving W. Kreutz died on August 1, 2008 in Jersey City, New Jersey at the age of 90.

He was born in El Paso, Texas on September 5, 1917 and was raised in Darlington, Wisconsin. After graduating from Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin, he spent time at Stevens College in Missouri as a campus librarian. During World War II, he served as a communications officer on a mine sweeper in the Pacific theater. After the war, he returned to Wisconsin and obtained his master's degree and his PhD in English literature (1956) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From 1951 to 1962, Professor Kreutz was a member of the English department at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where he taught English and was editor of *The Kenyon Review*.

After leaving Kenyon College, Irving joined the extension division of the University of Wisconsin, first as a librarian and then as a professor. Later, he served as a professor of English in the Department of Liberal Studies, UW-Madison Division of University Outreach. He was a pioneer in distance education. In the 1980s, he presented a class in English literature on the Ideas Network of WPR where he took calls from his listeners. His voice became known throughout Wisconsin from his popular weekly book reviews which were broadcast on WHA radio during the early morning classical music and art program *Prelude*. He also served as local host for Masterpiece Theatre when public television broadcast the BBC production of the *The Forsyte Saga*. He acted in such University of Wisconsin productions as *A Delicate Balance* by Edward Albee. An avid writer all of his life, he wrote short stories, poems and novels, one of which, *The Womanless Wedding*, set in a fictional small town in southwestern Wisconsin in 1931, was published by Xlibris in 2002.

Professor Kreutz's erudition and passion for literature were balanced by his warmth, generous nature and humor. Beloved by his colleagues, he was a wonderful man to work with, very bright and witty, and especially committed to his students.

He was married for 59 years to Barbara McLaughlin Kreutz (PhD, history, UW-Madison), who at one time was a vice chancellor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as well as dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Bryn Mawr College. Barbara died in 2003. Professor Kreutz is survived by his four children, Nicole Macinnes, Gregg Kreutz, Charlotte Kreutz, and Libby Kreutz; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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