

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS BURTON W. KREITLOW

Professor Emeritus Burton Kreitlow died Thursday, October 21, 2010, in hospice at Cook County (Minnesota) North Shore Hospital. He joined the University of Wisconsin faculty in 1949 with a joint appointment in the School of Education's Continuing, Adult and Vocational Education Department (CAVE) and Extension Education. He retired in 1981.

During his long and distinguished career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Burton Kreitlow was also a distinguished visiting professor at The Ohio State University and a visiting professor at National Taiwan, Texas A&M, Alaska Pacific, Florida State, and Washington State universities. He served in leadership roles in numerous national organizations, including two terms as chair of the Commission of Professors of Adult Education, as president of the Department of Rural Education, two terms as chairman of the Publications Committee of the National Education Association, and as a member of the executive committee of the Adult Education Association of the USA.

Honors include being selected outstanding adult educator at the Joint Conference of Wisconsin and Illinois Adult Education Associations in 1980 and Wisconsin's outstanding adult educator in 1981. He is listed in the 1996-1997 edition of *Who's Who in American Education*.

Burt was born in 1917 at his parents' farm near Howard Lake, Minnesota. He grew up milking cows and learning all the skills needed to help on an 80-acre farm. Burt graduated from Howard Lake High School at the age of 15. He attended a county normal school program that trained teachers for rural schools and taught first through eighth grades at a school near Montrose. Two years later, he entered the agricultural education program at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus. He received his bachelor's degree in 1940. Burt served as a U.S. Army Air Force crew chief on the 376th Squadron based in North Africa. After World War II, Burt earned his PhD under the GI Bill. After teaching one year at Michigan State University, he accepted a joint appointment at the University of Wisconsin in Madison in the Department of Agricultural Education and the Continuing, Adult and Vocational Education Department. For 32 years, Burt held that position and became the driving force behind a "Lifespan Education" curriculum. He mentored many fine students through their doctoral degrees in the field of education.

Prior to his appointment at the University of Wisconsin, he embodied "The Wisconsin Idea" by promoting the delivery of educational programs and support in rural settings. He served as a county agricultural agent and as a district director for 4-H, where he wrote his earliest articles "Educational Plans of Minnesota Youth," (1949) and "Key to School-Community Understanding" (1950). For the next 15 years, he developed relationships with rural education organizations and participated in school reorganizations and community relationships. By 1960, he was recognized as a key participant in the adult education movement. He contributed numerous articles and chapters to books.

After retirement, he and his wife, Doris, jointly authored a book based on interviews with 140 retirees, *Creative Planning for the Second Half of Life* (1997).

Burt was married to Doris Ounsworth for 66 years. He is survived by two daughters, Karen (Pat) Neal of Grand Marais, Minnesota, and Candace (Pete) Bauer of Brandon, Oregon; three granddaughters, Jessica Neal, Tiffany Hafermann and Holly Brook Hafermann; a brother, Willard Kreitlow, and niece Marian Kreitlow of Howard Lake, Minnesota; and a nephew, David Kreitlow of Portland, Oregon.

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