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**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison  
On the Death of Professor Emeritus Gail E. Beck**

Gail Beck was born on July 25, 1923 in Dunn County, Wisconsin. He passed away on May 12, 2015 in Fort Myers, Florida.

Gail was raised on a dairy farm in central Wisconsin and his education derived from a one-room school house until the 9th grade. He had a strong interest in gardening and spent many hours in the garden in his youth. After graduating from high school he volunteered with the US Army and served proudly during WWII. He was wounded in Germany in 1945 and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

Following WWII he attended Michigan State University and obtained his undergraduate and master degrees in horticulture. He was then hired by the University of Wisconsin-Madison to build their floriculture program where he simultaneously obtained his Ph.D. in floriculture. Gail spent 36 years as a professor in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He taught many students and assisted many in the greenhouse industry during his years on the faculty.

Gail was instrumental in the development of the Allen Centennial Garden. He and his students investigated physiological changes associated with cold hardiness in ornamental plants such as Chrysanthemum and the environmental control of flowering in Poinsettia. He also helped develop and release new cultivars of ornamental plants such as Clerodendrum for greenhouse production.

In 1985 Gail retired and he and his wife Lois moved to Fort Myers, FL. Gail volunteered many hours of his leadership to the 1st Church of the Nazarene in Madison and Fort Myers.

Throughout his career, Gail sought ways for students to gain practical experience in addition to classroom learning. An internship at the Allen Centennial Garden on our campus was developed in his honor by his daughter Juelene to emphasize his focus on practical experience.