

# **MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS**

**Phyllis Brackelsberg**

**Richard L. Disney, Jr.**

**Gary Eugene Downs**

**Lloyd C. Dumenil**

**Barbara Ellen Forker**

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**Regis Dale Voss**

**Iowa State University Faculty Senate  
December 7, 2010**



**Phyllis Brackelsberg**

Phyllis was a faculty member in the Textiles and Clothing Department (now a program in the Apparel, Educational Studies, and Hospitality Management Department) for 29 years, retiring as emeritus Associate Professor in May 1998. Her colleagues deeply feel her loss, and her department honors her for her strong legacy.

During her years as a faculty member, Phyllis taught and advised hundreds of students. Mrs. Brackelsberg was beloved and admired by her students and this was recognized with several major ISU awards: ISU Outstanding Teacher Award in 1980 and Outstanding Advisor from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences for 1983 and 1994. The following quotes from her students capture their respect for her:

*She knows the T&C department like the back of her hand. She knows when classes are held, if you will have conflicting times, what classes are enjoyable, etc.*

*I have never met any professor or advisor at Iowa State that is more caring, helpful, organized, and knowledgeable.*

*I enjoyed the class very much and learned more than I thought I would.*

*You're very fair and listen to what your students have to say. You don't just see things as your way. You can see other views too.*

With poise and dedication, Phyllis gave 150% to the tasks in which she was involved. She was instrumental in ISU receiving the Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Award from the National Academic Advising Association in 1984. She was active in Faculty Senate, serving on Faculty Senate Executive Committee and as Senate Secretary, and Chair of the University Advising Committee. Phyllis also served as Vice President and President of the ISU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi and as a member of the Committee to Review Academic Progress of Student Athletes. At the College level she served on the

Honors, International, Curriculum, Faculty Review, Advisory Board, and Advising Committees. In her Department she was responsible for developing Transfer Credit Plans with all of Iowa's Community Colleges and was an advisor to several student groups including Textiles and Clothing Club, Phi Upsilon Omicron, and the Student Member Section of the Iowa Home Economics Association. Phyllis received a Faculty Citation from the Alumni Foundation in 1985.

In addition to her teaching and advising, Phyllis authored numerous editions of *The Unit Method of Construction*, a textbook adopted nationwide by many schools, and actively engaged in research which had industry wide impacts. She was lead researcher on studies of infant diapers and apparel sizing for women 55 and older. She pioneered incorporation of computer-aided design in TC courses.

Phyllis was born in Moorhead, MN. She attended North Dakota State University as an undergraduate and the University of Connecticut for her Masters degree. Phyllis was a highly active member of Collegiate United Methodist Church while living in Ames. She was a member of United Methodist Women, PEO, the Iowa Family and Consumer Sciences Association, and a member of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority.

Her legacy of accomplishments to her students, her profession, her community and her family are well respected by her colleagues.

# Dick Disney

Richard L. Disney Jr., 93, of Ames, died Sunday, Sept. 5, 2010, at Green Hills Health Care Center in Ames after a short illness.



Richard Disney (center) with Giles Fowler (left) and Jim Schwartz (right).

Richard was born Oct. 26, 1916, in Muskogee, Okla. He grew up in Ardmore, Okla., and Oklahoma City; received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma; and did graduate work at Columbia University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Minnesota. He joined the faculty of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Iowa State University in 1962 and retired as a full professor (emeritus) in 1982, having previously taught at Montana State University and the University of Wisconsin.

Jane Peterson, associate director of the Greenlee School, took a graduate level course in advanced news reporting, writing and editing taught by Disney. "He was major influence on me as a journalist and educator," she notes. "He was the best and most patient editor I ever worked with. He could take mundane copy and make it sing. His soft-spoken way of guiding students through news reporting, writing and editing contrasted with his zeal for accuracy, integrity and evenhandedness in the journalistic process."

"Dick Disney was a journalist and educator who conveyed to his students the awesome responsibility of the journalist in a democracy," Peterson stated. She added that colleagues and graduate students always knew "they were welcome at Dick and Jean Disney's home for good food, libations and fascinating conversations."

Eric Abbott, director of graduate studies, also studied with Disney.

As he recalled, "I never encountered a better wordsmith than Richard Disney. He was my instructor for feature writing, and he met individually with students to review their stories. I

remember sitting in his office, with him at the typewriter, making a few oral comments while he typed out a possible new lead for my story. His words made the story sing. And remarkably, he could do this with student after student, story after story. From him I learned that good writing comes from clear thinking and a generous amount of sweat and toil."

Journalism professor and movie critic Tom Beell met Disney in 1975. "Being a movie fan, my first question was, 'Are you related to Walt Disney?' It was a question he had been asked hundreds of times, I'm sure, but he answered with the patience he was known for."

"I think he's a distant cousin, but he's never admitted to it."

Beell observed that Dick was "a superb one-on-one teacher who helped many aspiring scribes become excellent writers."

Like Jane Peterson, Beell also recalls that the Disneys "threw wonderful faculty parties at their home near campus. I can still hear the echoes of many intense conversations about politics and the arts — but especially journalism."

Memories of those conversations and parties still ripple through the journalism school. Tom Emmerson, former department chair, wrote in an e-mail, "As a couple, Dick and wife Jean Disney hosted the best parties for journalism faculty, grad students and the occasional special guest. There was always excellent food (especially spaghetti) and the piano stayed hot all evening."

Emmerson also remembers how Disney "with his longish white hair, goatee and string ties, cut a figure somewhere between Colonel Sanders, Mark Twain and a riverboat gambler. But he was nothing if not kind and gentle with a glint in his eye that suggested he (at least sometimes) knew things you didn't."

"His approach to teaching was not just low key, but he had the knack of sitting quietly in tutorials waiting for his student to figure out for himself or herself what a story still needed -- or didn't need," Emmerson added.

Steve Coon, an emeritus professor, remembers an aspect of Disney that others didn't mention. "Although I never had a class with Dick, he and I shared a mutual love of Spanish and often talked about the many books in Spanish and about Spanish grammar we both had."

One of the best tributes about Disney came from longtime friend and colleague Bill Kunerth, another writing and reporting professor. "In my 30-plus years of teaching, Dick Disney was the most underestimated college professor among the 50 or so I worked with," Kunerth wrote in an e-mail. "Anyone who has been faced with the challenge of trying to teach writing realizes that the most effective approach is not through 'telling' but by 'showing'—i.e. editing."

"To demonstrate to students how they can improve their cherished prose registers as lecturing about the subject or providing examples never can. Advisee after advisee testified to me how much they learned in their one-on-one sessions with Dick."

"His unassuming, pleasant ways betrayed a tough-minded editor who prepared a host of undergraduates to perform at the highest professional level. He was a nice, bright guy who will be sorely missed by anyone who passed his way."

Before beginning his academic career, Disney worked as a reporter for the Muskogee, Okla., Phoenix and Times-Democrat, a news analyst for the National Housing Agency, a reporter for the Washington Star, and an editor and public relations officer for the University of Oklahoma. He served in Italy in World War II and left the U.S. Army with the rank of captain.

He is survived by his daughters, Mrs. Terry Arch, of Reno, Nev., and Mrs. Jean Tauber, of Des Moines; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and his sisters, Dawn Yorke, of Bryan, Texas, and Elizabeth Baker, of Friday Harbor, Wash.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean; his daughter, Elizabeth Disney, of Tucson, Ariz.; and his brother, Mitchell, of Melbourne, Fla.



**Gary Eugene Downs**  
**Department of Curriculum and Instruction**

Gary Downs, Emeritus Professor of Curriculum and Instruction died July 17, 2010. A friend to many in K-12 education and a colleague in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Gary was a member of the Iowa State University Community from 1975 to 1999. Upon graduation from the University of Northern Colorado in 1972 with the ED. D. degree, Gary was employed as a science education consultant for the state of Iowa by the Iowa Department of Education. Following three years with the Department of Education, he joined the ISU faculty and rose through the academic ranks.

While at ISU, Gary was recognized as an excellent teacher, administrator, and a scholar who impacted the K-12 public school system through his grant work. Gary was a leading figure in Iowa's K-12 science education community and his grant work always involved an outreach component that was the foundation of a collaborative relationship between the Education College at ISU and the public education sector. During his twenty-four year career at ISU, he twice served as chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. For those who knew Gary as a departmental colleague and friend, his stabilizing leadership contributions prior to his retirement are deeply appreciated.

Submitted by:  
Gary Phye



Picture courtesy of the Iowa State University Library/Special Collections Department

### MEMORIAL RESOLUTION for Lloyd C. Dumenil (1920-2010)

Lloyd Carver Dumenil, 89, Professor Emeritus of Agronomy at Iowa State University, died 5 July, 2010 in Phoenix, Arizona. He was born 23 July 1920 in Argyle, Iowa to Leslie H. and Elsie (Satterly) Dumenil. Lloyd married Lualis Darlene Uthoff on June 19, 1944 and they were the parents of one daughter, Ann Dumenil and a son, Robert Carver Dumenil.

He earned the B.S Degree in Agronomy in 1942 at Iowa State College. Following graduation he served in the U. S. Army Signal Corps from 1942 to 1943. During 1944 to 1946 he worked for Bell Laboratories in Chicago. In 1946 he returned to Iowa State as a full time soil fertility research associate in the Agronomy Department and became an Assistant Professor in 1950. Simultaneously he agreed to continue graduate study. His progress was slow because of the restraints on study allowed full time employees and he also placed responsibility to the farmers and to the department ahead of his personal goals. As a result the Ph.D. Degree was granted in 1958.

Dumenil's tenure in the department was during forty years of some of the greatest changes in the cropping systems in Iowa, which were dependent upon recent mechanization of crop production, the final acceptance of hybrid corn seed, improvements in soybeans, and an explosion in the understanding and application of fertilizers not previously seen in the state. He was one of the continuing team of investigators whose research and observations were crucial to generation of knowledge and its delivery to producers, especially of corn, in the state with a practice-changing effect similar to that of the "Corn Gospel Trains" nearly a half century earlier. In the Dumenil years the state's average corn yields more than doubled from 1946 to 1986 and the total production on less land almost tripled. Lloyd was the principal player connecting the laboratory to the field and disseminating information to the agricultural public through a harmonious relationship with the Cooperative Extension Service. As a member of the Iowa State Agronomy faculty in soil fertility research he mentored graduate students from around the world until his retirement. Their work emphasized the connection between the mineral nutrition of corn and its productivity.

Lloyd Dumenil was a totally committed alumnus who returned much to the university and was especially interested in athletics. His generosity through the years earned him a place in The Order of the Knoll. He had a professional curiosity that reached out to all matters pertaining to the soil producing



crops and the rest of the landscape. To this end, his interest in nature conservancy was noteworthy and he generously volunteered time to the Iowa Conservation Commission and the Iowa Arboretum.

He was preceded in death by his wife in 2004 and his son in 1966. He is survived by his daughter Ann, in Arizona, and his adopted granddaughter, Leah Ackerman, who lives in Ames.

**Barbara Ellen Forker**  
**Distinguished Professor Emerita**  
**1920-2010**

Dr. Barbara E. Forker, professor, leader, and friend, was born August 28, 1920 in Kendallville, Indiana and died on May 31, 2010 in Green Valley, Arizona.

She received her bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1942, a master's degree from Iowa State University in 1950, and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1957.

Dr. Forker started her career as a physical education instructor at Garfield Elementary School (1942-1944) and Roosevelt High School (1944-1945) in Wyandotte, MI. During World War II, she left teaching to work for the American Red Cross in the European Theater (1945-1947). She came to Iowa State in 1948 as an instructor intending a brief stay while pursuing a master's degree, but instead stayed until her retirement as Distinguished Professor Emerita in 1986. She was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1949, Associate Professor in 1952, and Professor in 1957. Beginning in 1958 she headed the Women's Department of Physical Education and emerged as head of a combined women's and men's department in 1974, a position she held until her retirement. Iowa State University was one of the early programs to merge departments following the passage of Title IX legislation, and Dr. Forker was one of few women chosen as head of a merged department—a real tribute to her strength and leadership.



Dr. Forker was a leader of numerous professional organizations. She was the president (1958-1959) of the Iowa Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation; president (1965-1966) of the Central District Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation; and vice president (1962-1964) of the Central Association for Physical Education of College Women. On the national level, Dr. Forker was vice president (1970-1971) and president (1972-1973) of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation.

Dr. Forker received many honors for her achievements including the IAHPER Honor Award (1961); Professor of the Year, Iowa State University – Outstanding Teaching Voted By Students (1963); CDAHPER Honor Award (1964); Faculty Citation by Alumni (1966); and the AAHPER National Honor Award (1971). In 1984 she received AAHPER's highest honor, the Gulick Award, for her leadership and dedication to the organization. In 1997, Iowa State University renamed the Physical Education Building for Women as the Barbara E. Forker Building in her honor.

One of her greatest achievements was her work with the U.S. Olympics (1975-1984). Dr. Forker served on the U.S. Olympic Committee from 1975-1984 including its Executive Board from 1980-1984. President Gerald Ford appointed her to a Commission with eight senators and congressmen as well as several well-known sport figures to investigate and revise the nature of U.S. amateur sport. She was an often invited speaker and published numerous papers on Olympic sports and Title IX issues.

Dr. Forker was a treasure to family, lifelong friends, faculty, and students. She loved Iowa State University and the field and profession of physical education. Former colleagues recognize that Dr. Forker held them to high expectations, but held herself to higher expectations. Dr. Jan Beran, Barbara's friend and colleague at ISU, said "Barbara was the quintessential physical education professional. She set high standards for herself and her department, was an effective advocate for the department, and led it to be one of the most respected programs in the nation." Dr. Forker once told her newly hired sport psychologist "I am not sure exactly what a sport psychologist does, but I do know this department needs one if we are going to keep improving." When her eyes were steely blue it was obvious she was a firm woman who went after what she thought was right; when her eyes twinkled bright blue people saw a kind and gentle person.

Barbara Forker influenced our field by leading an emerging women's movement and as an administrator supporting a shift to science in physical education departments. She did this while working effectively with men and maintaining the important role of physical education as evidence-based practice. Barbara was a role model to many women in our field, a friend to the field, and selflessly dedicated to Iowa State.

Respectfully submitted by Philip E. Martin and Jerry R. Thomas, October 26, 2010



Bonita (Bonnie) Ann Glatz  
University Professor  
Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition  
11/12/48 – 7/16/10

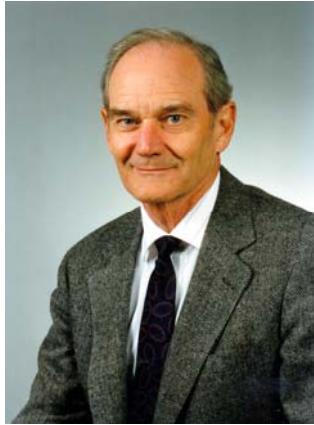
On July 16, 2010, the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition lost a legend in Dr. Bonita (Bonnie) Glatz, 61, who died at home surrounded by her family. Glatz spent her 29-year career at ISU and left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her.

It was 1975 with a fresh PhD from University of Wisconsin that Glatz first joined the FSHN faculty at ISU. In the course of her career, Glatz became a leader in *Propionibacterium* research and maintained the ISU culture collection for this organism. The first female hired in the Department of Food Technology and the third woman in the College of Agriculture (and now, Life Sciences), she remained a pioneer of sorts throughout her career. Good friends of Glatz and FSHN faculty Drs. Cheryll Reitmeier and Patricia Murphy recalled she was an early member of the University Committee for Women, founding member of the Program for Women in Science and Engineering, played a major part in making the merger of Food Technology and Food and Nutrition work, was a mentor early in Murphy's career long before ISU thought to offer "official" mentors, and helped lead efforts to get child care concerns for families before the administration. While mentoring 33 graduate students and numerous undergraduates, expecting excellence from them as well as herself, Glatz still had time for fun. She tossed food safety rules aside and ate lunch at unique Campustown places like Grubstake and Dugan's, claiming to be building up antibody titers.

A portion of Glatz's tenure at ISU was spent as Associate Chair. She served as the first Associate Chair of FSHN from 1997 until 2004. She defined this position through her term of service. It is notable that FSHN faculty were not initially supportive of having an associate chair focus on undergraduate programs, but Bonnie won most faculty over through her tireless focus on improving our programs for students, minimizing the faculty burden and recognizing faculty for their outstanding efforts.

Not only was Glatz a great researcher, colleague, mentor, ISU citizen and friend, but she also maintained a strong marriage to her high school sweetheart and raised three happy and successful children. She created a balance that allowed her to excel professionally and have a satisfying personal life. Bonnie's ability to successfully navigate both areas made her a worthy role model and a very special person.

Bonnie Glatz will be remembered for being instrumental in making the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition what it is today.



Picture courtesy of the Iowa State University Library/Special Collections Department

### **MEMORIAL RESOLUTION; Professor Detroy Edward Green, 1930-2010.**

Detroy Edward Green was born on March 26, 1930 to Cora (Rhodes) and Charlie Green near Zelma, Missouri. He died in Ames, Iowa on November 8, 2010 at age of 80 years. He married Marilyn Jereleen Ward, August 3, 1951, in Sikeston, Missouri. She and three daughters and two sons born to this union survive him.

Detroy graduated from Matthews High School in Matthews, Missouri in 1948. His education was interrupted, and perhaps later augmented, by a tour of front line military duty, 1951-53, during the Korean conflict. After being discharged, he completed the bachelor's degree in agricultural education at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1954 and taught vocational agriculture at Parma, Missouri until 1959. He returned to the University of Missouri to receive the M.S. degree in 1961, and the Ph.D. in 1964, both in plant breeding.

Dr. Green joined the Agronomy Faculty at Iowa State University in 1964 with primary responsibilities for undergraduate teaching and advising, and soybean breeding. He was employed to teach the beginning crop science course attracting several hundred students each semester. He revolutionized it by adopting audio-visual-tutorial instruction focusing on the individual students' needs, skills and aptitude. Students could set their own pace and had access to laboratory materials and an instructor for up to 35 hours per week. Always employing the best hard technology in visual and audio systems, the mechanics of delivery eventually evolved to use an adjacent hands-on greenhouse and computer based instructional material. He prepared and revised a special text dedicated to this course and revised it several times. Teaching Agronomy will never be the same following his innovations. He also enjoyed great success in teaching the first plant breeding course for senior and graduate students emphasizing challenging genetic and mathematical relationships for modern plant breeders, and mentoring graduate students in teaching and research.

This method emphasizing extensive instructor-student interaction required a large number of personnel, and the Dean's office was willing to support the unique effort with graduate assistants, so that Professor Green annually had as many as ten instructors and graduate assistants assigned to his courses. He honed their teaching orientation and skills and mentored them to follow in his footsteps regarding teaching philosophy and methods. As a result the Agronomy Department has numerous alumni who have been

deliberately selected for their teaching skills essentially around the globe; more than half of over forty of his former graduate students have become university teachers or extension educators.

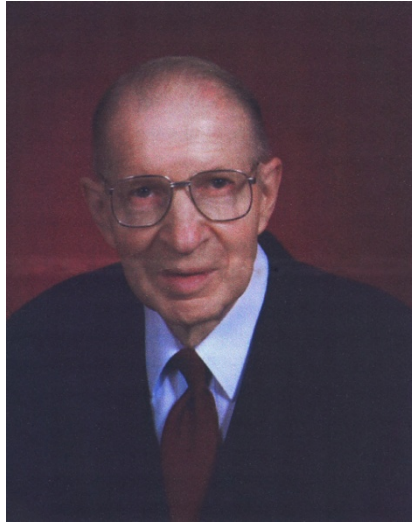
Dr. Green's instructional duties and appointment provided for only one-fourth of his effort available for research. Because he was familiar with soybeans, the crop in which he was trained, he was encouraged further to improve soybeans. His soybean breeding program has been described as "extensive and innovative" and it was cooperative; the latter because he teamed with a crop physiologist, jointly to study the inheritance of physiological and morphological traits and their influence on yield potential under intensive production management. In only a decade his plant breeding results drew the attention of many others. In response he took a leave of absence to direct the development of a national Soybean Research Program in Spain for the World Bank during 1975-1977, and decided to remain in academe. His plant breeding graduate students have shown the value of his mentoring and training by having risen to important positions in the soybean breeding industry. His influence no doubt has reached farther than if he had become a private industry soybean breeder.

Assuming the position of Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture in 1989 permitted Dean Green more forcefully to extend his teaching, instructional and implementation philosophy to the whole college, not to only one department. His central focus remained the individual student. He promoted equipping the classrooms and laboratories, and the instructors with state-of-the-art equipment and attitudes for the most effective transfer of knowledge and problem solving to students. He instilled a sense of human awareness and sensitivity toward others and toward nature, through the instructors, and thus helped students apply this to their value judgment and ethics in general behavior and the ability to communicate effectively. As Dean, he was highly concerned with recruiting more students to the College of Agriculture, and did this by his programs of placing "student ambassadors" into their former high school classrooms during university breaks, and extended the opportunity of placing "visiting faculty" members into high school classrooms to tell students about research leading to science based information and its importance. Finally he gave talented undergraduate students the opportunity to work with research professors on campus to help them understand the many facets of science in agriculture.

He was recognized for excellence in his work by students, university and national colleagues and the citizens of Iowa. The following formal awards are listed in order of receipt: Student recognition as Professor of the Year; Outstanding Educators of America; Recognition as one of the Top Five Advisors in the College of Agriculture; American Society of Agronomy Resident Education Award; Fellow in the American Society of Agronomy; Louis Thompson Award for Scholarly Achievement in Teaching; Outstanding Advisor Award by the Student Alumni Association; Fellow in the Crop Science Society of America; Governor's Science Medal for Science Teaching; Burlington Northern Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching; and NACTA (National Association of College Teachers of Agriculture) Teacher Fellow.

In addition to wife, Marilyn, he is survived by children, Angela Green, Mona (Rick) Porter, Detroy (Cindi) Green II, Alan (Judy) Green, and Lori (Cam) Moran; fifteen grandchildren, six great grandchildren and a sister.

Memorials may be sent to the Detroy E. Green Memorial Scholarship at: Iowa State University Foundation, 2505 University Boulevard, Ames, Iowa 50010-2230.



John Newton Riley  
September 20, 1933 – June 9, 2009

John Newton Riley was born in McMinnville, Oregon on September 20, 1933. He received his B.S. in 1955 and M.Ed. in 1965 from Oregon State University and his Ed.D. in 1972 from Rutgers University. He taught in the Industrial Education and Technology Department for 25 years. There he distinguished himself as an innovative and effective instructor.

For many years, Dr. Riley conducted Schoolflight workshops – both on and off campus. These workshops were designed to provide educators with the hands-on experience and technical know-how to implement aircraft construction programs in secondary and postsecondary schools.

Dr. Riley is survived by his wife of 55 years, Janet, of Sebring, FL; two daughters, Karen (Curt) DeGraaff, of Des Moines and Debra (Mark) Richardson, of Clearwater, FL; three sons, Kenneth (Margy) Riley, of Lake Ann, MI, John (Pam) Riley, of Austin, MN, and Stephen (Jackie) Riley, of Hillsboro, OR; one brother, Alex Riley of CA; 17 grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

## John D. 'Jack' Shelley



ISU Greenlee School of Journalism Director and Professor Michael Bugeja and colleagues offer this tribute in memory of legendary broadcaster Jack Shelley. Shelley began teaching journalism at Iowa State in 1965 and retired as professor emeritus in 1982. Portions of this content originally appeared in the April 2006 issue of the Greenlee School publication, "the monthly memo."

In November 2005, one of the greatest broadcasters of all time approached Michael Bugeja, director of Iowa State University's Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication, with a special request.

The broadcaster, retired and in his 90s, sat down across from Bugeja in Hamilton Hall where he had taught some of the finest journalists in the business, including Kevin Cooney, KCCI; Jerry Bowen, CBS Evening News; and Terry Anderson, the Associated Press.

He had just learned that Iowa State University journalism great, Hugh Sidey, White House bureau chief for Time Magazine, had passed away.

"I think my time is coming," he observed. "I want you to write my obituary while I am still alive, so I can edit it."

This is that obituary.

### **A broadcasting legend lost**

Today, the voice of Iowa and the Midwest, John D. "Jack" Shelley -- World War II combat reporter, WHO news director and Iowa State University journalism professor emeritus -- died at age 98 at Northcrest Retirement Community in Ames.

Shelley, a towering figure in real life at six-foot-three, was a journalism legend. Born in Boone, Iowa, on March 12, 1912, he witnessed the birth of broadcast journalism in its early years, covered World War II

with the likes of Walter Cronkite and Edward R. Murrow, and inspired generations of ISU journalism students.

"I'll always remember listening with my dad to Jack Shelley's crisp, clear voice booming over the radio," Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, recalled. "It was like listening to something from a higher power."

Shelley's interest in journalism began when he reported for his high school newspaper in Boone. After graduation, he took jobs at two regional railroads at the beginning of the Depression. In the fall of 1931, with \$35 earned from railroad work, he enrolled in the University of Missouri journalism department.

After graduation in 1935, Shelley briefly worked at the Iowa Herald in Clinton before taking a job at Des Moines' WHO Radio, a 50,000-watt station. Shelley joined H.R. Gross as a two-man team delivering news live on the air because no recording equipment was available at the time.

Shelley remembered the era in an interview with Chris Allen, an ISU alumnus who earned his Ph.D. at Missouri, writing about Shelley's life for his dissertation. Some of the incidents recounted in this obituary are from Allen's dissertation.

"You have to remember that in those days, in the 1930s, the vast majority of our audience found radio news something brand new and very exciting," Shelley recalled. "All these people who lived in small towns and on the farms in Iowa had never had anything that brought news to them so quickly."

## **Bringing the world to Iowans**

Shelley's remarkably sonorous voice immediately befriended the Midwestern audience.

With radio broadcasting still in its infancy, Gross and Shelley developed their own methods, Allen wrote. They got help from the United Press, which began adapting their reports for broadcast.

Shelley said the station had a strong presence throughout Iowa and the region, featuring live talent shows, weekly barn dances, and news broadcasts in between segments.

Without warning, World War II erupted.

When Pearl Harbor was bombed on Dec. 7, 1941, WHO broadcast a short wire report on the attack at 1 p.m. on that Sunday. Shelley, listening to the radio at his Boone home during a family dinner, called the station and directed the coverage from his kitchen table.

For the next five years, WHO would dedicate much of its coverage to war and its impact on Iowa and the Midwest.

Before the summer of 1944, the military would not allow overseas civilian correspondents from individual stations. As soon as the policy changed, Shelley was accredited by the U.S. Army and shipped out to Spa, Belgium, covering the Battle of the Bulge.



"The Nazis chased us out of Spa and into southern Holland, where we could file our reports," Shelley said.

In the field, whenever he saw soldiers, he got in the habit of calling out, "Anybody here from Iowa?" He found native Iowans on every battle front.

As the war in Europe began to wind down, Shelley reported on the final battles in the Pacific. Equipped with a recording device, Shelley taped the voices of Iowa patients in Hawaii hospitals. On Guam, he filed regular reports, including interviews with the B-29 crews bombing Tokyo.

## **Living history**

After the first atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, Shelley had the rare opportunity to record the first interviews with the crews who had bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Looking for the Iowa angle, Shelley learned that Enola Gay pilot Paul W. Tibbets had attended North High School in Des Moines.

After the interviews, Shelley knew he had a great story. Chris Allen quotes Shelley as saying the interviews were "the hottest thing we've ever had."

On Sept. 2, 1945, Shelley was aboard the U.S.S. Missouri to cover the formal Japanese surrender.

Years later, he was invited onboard the Missouri again-this time anchored in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii-to speak at a ceremony commemorating the 56th anniversary of the surrender.

At the end of the war, Shelley returned to Des Moines and his news director's job at WHO.

He also worked with CBS legend Edward R. Murrow in forming what would become the Radio Television News Directors Association (now the Radio Television Digital News Association), a professional organization founded to guarantee autonomy for news directors and standards for broadcast journalism. Shelley became the third person to serve as president of the group in 1950.

In 2000, he was awarded the RTNDA's John S. Hogan award, named after its first president. Other Hogan award recipients include iconic broadcasters Hugh Downs and Walter Cronkite.

Throughout the 1950s, Shelley continued to serve as the face of news for thousands of Iowans.

"If you lived in Iowa in the 1950s and 60s and didn't know who Jack Shelley was, then it's almost certain you didn't own a radio or TV," said Bob Greenlee, ISU alumnus and namesake of the journalism school in Ames.

"For many people, Jack Shelley was the news."

In 1953, Shelley was invited to witness the detonation of a nuclear device at the Atomic Energy Commission's Yucca Flats site in Nevada. The commission had designated "ANNIE" an open shot, which meant that reporters were allowed to view the blast from the NewsNob, a location six miles south

of ground zero. Shelley was among 20 reporters selected to accompany about 1,500 soldiers in five-foot trenches just two miles away.

At 4 a.m., an hour and 20 minutes from blast-time, they were shuttled to the trenches. Shelley carried a battery-powered tape recorder. It was one of the few devices to survive with a usable recording of sounds from the event. The nuclear device was 16 kilotons and detonated from atop a 300-foot tower.

"With my eyes shut, I can see that tremendous light," Allen quoted from Shelley's report. "The earth is shaking under me. ... There's the tremendous sound. This trench is being filled with dust."

In 1954, WHO received a license to begin broadcasting television signals. Shelley anchored the 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts and worked 12-hour days.

Jerry Bowen, CBS Evening News correspondent and student of Shelley's in the 1960s, remembered Shelley's "warm, commanding style" of delivering news to Iowa homes.

"If Jack said it was so, you could go to bed assured it was true. And when he said good night with that twinkle in his eye, you turned off the set feeling even better," Bowen said. "He was and is our Walter Cronkite."

From 1968 until 1988, Shelley served as the executive director of the Iowa Broadcast News Association. He was awarded the group's Distinguished Service Award when he retired.

In 1971, the IBNA honored him by establishing the Jack Shelley Award.

"Jack Shelley didn't make broadcast history in Iowa, he lived it," said Mike Peterson, news director at KMA/KKBZ in Shenandoah, Iowa and past president of the IBNA.

"We thank him for everything he did in the media, at Iowa State, and with the IBNA."

### **At Iowa State, Shelley always put students first**

As an educator, Shelley insisted on putting his students' needs above anything else. Some students who grew up watching his broadcasts found themselves working with a local hero in their classes.

He taught for 17 years retiring in 1982.

"It was a privilege to have been one of his students," recalled Bowen. "Jack was actually reading my copy and kindly making suggestions that continue to serve me for four decades."

Patricia Dean, a Chicago broadcaster for 18 years, and now associate director of the School of Journalism at the Annenberg School for Communication, remembered Shelley as a beloved adviser.

"We should not underestimate how important a strong mentor is to students," Dean said. "At a time when women were not encouraged to enter some areas of the profession, Jack said

'nonsense.' He believed in me and gave me the education to achieve my goals and the courage to pursue my dreams."

Shelley's reputation won over Kevin Cooney, now Des Moines' KCCI-TV anchor.

"He never made it seem like work," Cooney said. "I still remember his emphasis on realizing that television, while it reached thousands, was really a personal, one-on-one style of storytelling. There is not a day that goes by that I don't put into practice something that Jack taught me."

Shelley often said his days at Iowa State's journalism department were among his happiest.

"Then, as now, we had such respect for each other," he noted. "You had the feeling at Iowa State that when somebody had an accomplishment, that you all shared in it."

Shelley was a founding member of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, and served as its president in 1981. He retired from teaching at age 70 at the end of the 1982 school year.

In 1983, the Radio-TV Division of the Association of Education in Journalism and Mass Communication made Shelley the first winner of its Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Educator Award.

In retirement, Shelley worked in Boone as president of its historical society, was a member of the board of ISU's College for Seniors, and an honorary member of the Greenlee School's Advisory Council.

Shelley received the J.W. Schwartz award in 1993, the highest award given by Iowa State University for accomplishments in journalism and mass communication.

Noting the award, The Des Moines Register said Shelley had earned a place in Iowa journalism history for being a pioneer and a risk-taker as a professional, and helping to launch countless careers as an educator.

"If I get really personal, the blessings of my life were that I was married to two lovely women and a father to two wonderful sons and then a grandfather and great-grandfather," Shelley said in 2005.



Picture courtesy of the Iowa State University Library/Special Collections Department

### **MEMORIAL RESOLUTION, Regis Dale Voss 1931-2010**

Regis Dale Voss, 79, Professor Emeritus of Agronomy at Iowa State University, died 3 November 2010 in Ames, Iowa. He was born 4 January 1931, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa to Valeria and Francis Voss. Regis married Margaret “Mardi” Mitchell on 24 November 1956 and they became parents of daughter Lori Voss-Siders and sons John Patrick Voss and David James Voss.

Regis graduated from Atkins High School in Iowa in 1947. He earned his B.S degree in Agronomy at Iowa State College in 1952 while also a member of the FarmHouse Fraternity. After graduation he served in the U.S. Air Force as a F-86 jet fighter pilot from 1952 to 1956; holding the rank of First Lieutenant when honorably discharged. His tour of duty took him to Japan during the last days of the Korean Conflict. He began graduate study in Agronomy at Iowa State in 1956, following separation from the Air Force. He earned the M.S. degree in 1960 and the Ph.D. degree in 1962, both in soil fertility.

During 1962-64 Dr. Voss served as Agriculturist with the Tennessee Valley Authority and returned to Iowa State University in 1964 as Assistant Professor, became Associate Professor in 1966 and Professor of Agronomy in 1969. During 1970-71, he was a Visiting Professor of Soil Fertility Extension in the Agronomy Department at the University of Illinois-Urbana. Regis retired as Professor Emeritus in 1999. Specializing in soil fertility, and economics of fertilizer use he was cited as saying that he “spent the first 20 years of his career teaching farmers how to use fertilizers to increase their production, and the last 15 years telling them not to use so [too] much.”

An outstanding Agronomist in the Cooperative Extension Service at Iowa State University for 35 years Professor Voss played an integral role in what we see today in the production of corn and soybeans in the Midwest. His general educational meetings each year were attended by thousands of farmers, agronomy specialists and agribusiness employees. Seeking to do more than lecturing to farmers and others, he also used the outlying research centers operated by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences as podia for instruction that permitted direct observation and hands-on experience of plant growth principles in the field. Recognizing the shortcoming of depending upon someone else’s work as a teaching tool, he conceived the idea of a Field Extension Education Laboratory (FEEL) in which he and his extension colleagues could set-up management problems prior to planting each spring. Then the growing crops with selected treatments were used as the launching points for intensive integrated crop and soil management schools for private industry and academic practitioners. Each session assessed fees and lasted up to several days during the growing season; meeting in the FEEL field and dedicated classrooms on the premises. He managed to secure a field of over 40 acres adjacent to the Agronomy

and Agricultural Engineering Research Center east of Boone in 1987 to fulfill his dream of a FEEL, and it was in operation the next year. Present managers estimate that 400 to 500 paying clients each year receive instruction, and some 13,000 have attended these schools since inception of FEEL.

He received numerous recognitions, including citation in Marquis Who's Who in America for outstanding service in agriculture. Other awards included ASA Agronomic Extension Education Award, ASA Agronomic Achievement Award in Soils, ASA Werner L. Nelson Award for Diagnosis of Yield Limiting Factors, ASA and SSSA Fellow, AAAS Fellow, ISU Award for Excellence in Applied Research and Extension, ISU Burlington Northern Foundation Award for Career Achievement in Extension, and ISU University Extension Achievement Award. Membership in honorary academic societies included Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, and Epsilon Sigma Phi. An active member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church he was a lifelong member of the Knights of Columbus and Ames Kiwanis Club, and supporter of Friendship Ark. He also served as President of the Ames Chapter of the National Retired Federal Employees Association.

Regis was preceded in death by his wife, Mardi, and an adult son, David, his parents and brother Daniel Francis Voss. He is survived by daughter, Lori Voss-Siders of Story City Iowa; son, John Patrick Voss (Theri) of Zumbrota, Minnesota; and daughter-in-law, Rita Voss of Elgin, Nebraska;, and their families; including grandchildren Brianne Hyer, Jaylei Kolb, Rhea Voss, Thomas Voss, Jesse Siders, Alexia Siders, Samantha Voss, Avery Voss and Abigail Voss; and four great grandchildren.

Memorial donations in Dr. Voss' memory may be made to the Friendship Ark of Ames, 130 Sheldon Avenue, Suite 203, Ames, Iowa 50014.