



Dr. Joseph Burris 4/18/1942 – 1/1/2022

Joseph Stephen Burris, 79, of Ames, passed away peacefully at home on January 1, 2022. On April 18, 1942, Joseph was born to Charles R. and Catherine (Pravica) Burris in Cleveland, OH. Joe grew up in Lyndhurst, OH, graduating from Brush High School in 1960. In 1963 Joe married Judith Burkley, and together they had four children. He earned a B.S. from Iowa State University in 1964 and a Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1968. Dr. Burris joined the Botany Dept. at ISU as a seed physiologist (1968).

During his 31 year career at ISU, he was the consummate land-grant scientist. He designed his research programs to solve problems for farmers and the seed industry while, at the same time, advancing the science underlying the physiology of seed quality. For example, the latter part of his research career focused on seed quality preservation and loss during seed corn drying. From the industry perspective, his research characterized the effect of drying fronts, airflow rates, and drier temperatures on corn seed quality. From a physiological standpoint, his research included studying drier injury to mitochondria and the movement of lipid bodies in the embryos of corn during seed maturation and subsequent germination. He advised and mentored over 40 graduate students, many of whom became lifelong friends and colleagues in the seed industry. Joe counted among his professional accomplishments collaboration with the architect in design and construction of the original Seed Science Center on the ISU campus, significant contribution to the design and success of modern seed drying technology, and scientific understanding of seed quality. Joe was very active in professional societies. Upon retirement, he worked as a consultant to the seed and vegetable industry in many parts of the world.

In 1999, Joe married Joan Peterson. They loved traveling, exploring new places, and visiting family and friends. He was an accomplished woodworker and enjoyed making custom furniture for his home and his children's homes. He learned and enjoyed wood turning in later years and loved giving his bowls to family and friends.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Barbara Joye, brother, Charles, all of Ohio. Those surviving are his sister in law, Hilda Burris, wife, Joan, children, Jeff (Natalie) of Cedar Falls, IA, John (Verushka) of Niwot, CO, Jennifer (Gregg Garn) of Norman, OK, and Jason of Green Bay, WI, grandchildren Nathan and Joel Burris, Morgan and Kevin Burris, and Kathryn, Dylan and Allyson Garn. Also, step-children Erich (Allison) of Mahomet, IL, Audra (Jonathan Hall) of Morgantown, WV, Giles (Jelena Saric, significant other) of Chicago, IL, and Julia Slocum of Ames, IA, and step-grandchildren Pearce and Presley Slocum and Simone and Oscar Hall.



Ken Elvik, age 91, of Ames passed away on 24 November 2021 at Northcrest Community Center. Kenneth Oswald Elvik was born in Sioux City, Iowa on 29 June 1930, the son of Norwegian immigrants, Martin and Bertha Elvik. As a child of immigrants, Ken always tried to help students who did not have English as their native language during his time as a faculty member and department chairman in the ISU Department of Accounting.

Ken graduated from South Sioux City Nebraska High School in 1948 and in 1970 completed his Ph.D. in Accounting from the University of Nebraska. Ken's studies were postponed while he served in the US Army from 1952 to 1954, and were continued following his honorable discharge from the Army. Ken received his Business Administration degree from Morningside College (Sioux City, Iowa) in 1957 and his Master degree from the University of Nebraska in 1960. Prior to earning his Ph.D. Ken worked in the construction and lumber industries.

Ken married Donna Erickson in 1968 and their daughter, Brenda Marie, was born in 1969. Ken and Donna relocated to Ames in 1970 when Ken accepted a position as an accounting professor with the Department of Industrial Administration, a predecessor department of the Department of Accounting in, what is now, the Ivy College of Business at ISU.

Ken served as the Treasurer for the Academy of Accounting Historians, Secretary of the Economics and Business History Society, Book Review Editor for the Accounting Historians Journal, and President of Midwest Region of the American Accounting Association. He was awarded Outstanding Alumnus from the University of Nebraska, Beta Alpha Psi and the Faculty Citation from ISU.

In addition to his love of his family, history, and his Norwegian heritage, Ken is remembered for his love of fishing and international travel to visit family members in Norway. Following Ken's retirement in 1997, Ken and Donna enjoyed several winter trips to Florida. Ken was a member of the Ames Isaac Walton League and the Bethesda Lutheran Church.

Ken is remembered as being a strong, calm, voice for the department and the college, and is remembered fondly by all who knew him.



Pictured from left to right are (ca. 1981). From left to right: Martin Zober, Gary Aitchison, Chuck Millard (former chair of management), Charles Handy (founding dean), Ken Elvik (former chair of accounting), Lee Hoover (former chair of finance) and Linda (Tausz) Ferguson (administrative assistant).
Courtesy of Ivy College of Business

Mark C. Engelbrecht

Professor emeritus of architecture and dean emeritus **Mark Charles Engelbrecht**, FAIA, 83, of Des Moines, died Thursday, Dec. 30. [See Des Moines Register obituary](#)

Engelbrecht received a Bachelor of Architecture from Iowa State in 1963 and a Master of Architecture from Columbia University in 1964. As a professional architect, he served as a principal in four Des Moines architecture firms between 1966 and 1979: John Stephens Rice Architect, Hunter Rice & Engelbrecht, Engelbrecht/Rice and finally, Engelbrecht Rice & Griffin. From 1979–2000, he was principal of Engelbrecht & Griffin, PC, Des Moines and Newburyport, Massachusetts, a firm focused primarily on comprehensive environments for seniors.



He designed Northcrest Retirement Community in Ames; The Barbican, an 11-story residential tower on Grand Avenue in Des Moines, where he resided for 40 years; and the West Bank building on 22nd Street in West Des Moines. He is best known for designing the University of Northern Iowa's Maucker Union, which earned national honors when it was built in 1968 and was named one of Iowa's top 50 buildings of the 20th century by AIA Iowa.

Engelbrecht joined the Iowa State architecture faculty in 1969, holding visiting, temporary and adjunct positions until 1984, when he became a professor. He served as dean of the College of Design from 1994–2009.

During this administrative tenure he oversaw development of the college's Core Design Program, uniting all first-year students in a common curriculum; establishment of the Rome Program as a fully licensed branch of Iowa State University in Italy, which has hosted more than 2,500 design students since 1991; and successful fundraising efforts to construct the 250-seat Kocimski Auditorium and the LEED Platinum-certified King Pavilion additions to the college.

After stepping down as dean in June 2009 ([see Inside Iowa State feature story](#)), Engelbrecht returned to teaching part time, and retired from Iowa State in May 2014.

He was elevated to the national American Institute of Architects College of Fellows in 1998. He received the inaugural AIA Iowa Educator Award in 1996, AIA Iowa Medal of Honor in 2006, Order of the Knoll Faculty-Staff Award from the Iowa State University Foundation in 2009 and Christian Petersen Design Award from the College of Design in 2010.

Online condolences may be submitted to [Iles Funeral Homes Dunn's Chapel](#). Memorials may be directed to the Iowa State University Foundation, 2505 University Blvd., PO Box 2230, Ames, IA 50010-2230, with a note specifying the Mark C. Engelbrecht Architecture Rome Scholarship.

Robert W. Molison

July 27, 1935 – January 9, 2022

Dr. Robert “Doc” Molison was the director of Choral Activities at Iowa State for over 20 years. His great passion for music and educating students resulted in choirs of the highest artistic quality. Thousands of students benefited from his tenure which included organizing and planning tours throughout the United States, Australia, and Europe as well as singing with world famous guest orchestras as part of the Ames International Orchestra Festival Association, all while keeping his choirs focused on using that music to elevate their own humanity.



Robert “Bob” Molison was born in Grinnell, Iowa, the youngest child of Wilbur and Miriam Molison. He left Grinnell to study clarinet and voice at Oberlin College and Conservatory, performing in Oberlin’s prestigious choral and instrumental ensembles, graduating in 1958. He then pursued a Master of Music in clarinet performance at Yale University. While at Yale Bob also continued his voice studies working with renowned tenor Blake Stern. Upon graduation in 1960 Bob auditioned for and was awarded the position of principal clarinet with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra. While in Honolulu Bob was hired to teach music at The Iolani School in Honolulu, Hawaii. The Iolani school was a private school for Hawaiian natives. Because the Iolani position required Bob to re-engage his activity in vocal music, he began to enroll in choral music workshops and clinics. One such workshop in California introduced Bob to the renowned choral pedagogue Harold Decker. Decker rekindled Bob’s love of choral music and reaffirmed his potential skills and desire to pursue this avenue. After leaving Hawaii to pursue further studies in choral music, Bob was offered the opportunity to work with Elaine Brown, then the Director of Philadelphia’s Singing City. There he conducted and prepared choruses for performances with the Philadelphia Orchestra, among others. Bob continued his journey at the University of Illinois working to complete a new degree in American universities, the Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.), graduating in 1971. His initial tenure as a member of academia was at Brown University where he served as Director of Choral Activities. With his background as a native Iowan and his experience at Brown and Singing City, and the creation of the Iowa State Center and the Ames International Orchestra Festival and the creation of a degree in Music in the late 60’s Bob was attracted to Iowa State. Bob’s sister Mary attended ISU and sang in the Iowa State Singers, the university’s premiere choral ensemble under the direction of Robert McCowen. That familial connection was in addition to the fact that his father, Wilbur, served for a number of years as a member of the Iowa Board of Regents. It just so happened that ISU had an open position in Choral music in the 1973-74 year. The ‘Clarion Call’ was too strong, and Bob applied. In 1974 Bob became Director of Choral Activities for Iowa State University. During that tenure, the Iowa State Singers gained national distinction for their participation with leading orchestras from around the world in performances at the Ames International Orchestra Festival. For a few years in the 1980s, Bob was Director of Choral Activities at Colorado State University, but his heart was in Iowa, and he returned to Iowa State University until his retirement in 2000.

Retiring to Fort Collins, Colorado, Bob didn’t slow down as he conducted chamber choirs and became a lecturer for Road Scholar programs at the Central City Opera, Boulder Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival and School, and CSU’s Mountain Campus, formerly known as Pingree Park.

In addition to his work in universities, he founded the Providence Singers, served as the Director of the Des Moines Choral Society and the Greeley Chorale, and was the Director of the Civic Chorus at the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

Molison was a mentor, teacher, colleague, and professor to many people at the universities where he taught. He was the reason many now have careers in choral music. Bob also understood that those who were not music majors enjoyed music, and he fostered a love of music that has led former students of all majors to continue to be active in choral music groups throughout their lives.

In early retirement, Bob enjoyed nature photography, skiing, hiking around Colorado, and long walks in his neighborhood. He traveled extensively and had a curiosity for other cultures and countries. He was a voracious reader and life-long student. His Sunday New York Times would be found scattered around his chair after being read cover to cover. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of choral music and a library of CD's, tapes, DVDs, and vinyl records of his favorite music.

Music was his life-long passion, but his family was his life. Bob is survived by his wife of 55 years, Ann (Donham) Molison of Fort Collins, CO; his two children, Chris Molison (Lisa) of Thornton, CO, and Laura Olmedo (Jon) of Denver, CO; and four grandchildren, Kayla Molison, Ally Molison, Alejandro Olmedo and Javier Olmedo. He is also survived by his sister Mary Newton (Don) of West Des Moines, IA and beloved in-laws, nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, grand-nephews, friends, former students and colleagues. He was preceded in death by his parents, Wilbur and Miriam Molison and his brother, Wilbur McLain "Mac" Molison.

Gregory S. Palermo

Gregory S. Palermo, FAIA, professor emeritus of architecture, died Sunday, March 20, at Israel Family Hospice House in Ames. He was 75. [View obituary](#)

Palermo served on the Iowa State University architecture faculty from 1992 through his retirement in 2017. He was a past director and past national vice president of the American Institute of Architects, a past president of AIA Iowa and AIA St. Louis, and a past director and past president of the National Architectural Accrediting Board. He had served as an associate editor of *Iowa Architect* magazine and completed a term as president of the ISU Faculty Senate.

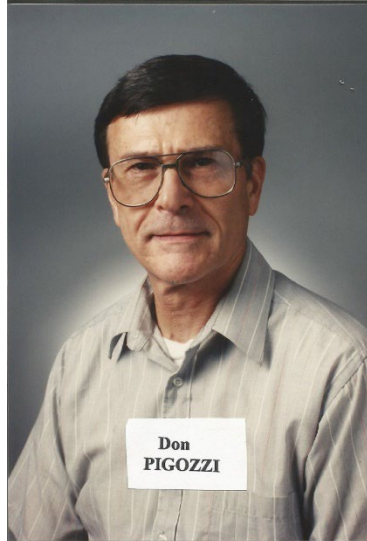


Palermo was a Fellow of the AIA. He received the AIA Iowa Educator Award in 2007 and the [Distinguished Professor Award](#) from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture in 2008. He was the co-author with Barry Wasserman and Patrick Sullivan of *Ethics and the Practice of Architecture* (John Wiley & Sons, 2000).

Prior to joining the Iowa State faculty, Palermo was engaged in architectural practice full time for more than 20 years, including serving as vice president and senior vice president of project management with HOK in St. Louis. He was the project manager on the St. Louis Union Station mixed-use redevelopment project, which won awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects, Society of American Registered Architects, National Endowment for the Arts, National Association of Industrial and Office Parks, Urban Land Institute, Building Stone Institute, Missouri Chapter of the American Planning Association, and others.

Palermo was also an instructor, visiting architect and affiliate assistant professor at Washington University in St. Louis from 1975–1990. He held a Bachelor of Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master of Architecture and Urban Design from Washington University.

Online condolences may be left for Palermo's family at www.adamssoderstrum.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the [ISU Palermo and Madison Architecture Travel Scholarship or their joint Scholarship in Architecture](#), Iowa State University Foundation, 2505 University Blvd., PO Box 2230, Ames, IA 50010-2230.



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Don Pigozzi, a long-time member of the Department of Mathematics at Iowa State University.

Don was born on June 29, 1935 in Oakland, California. Following in the footsteps of his older brother Leo, he enrolled in U.C. Berkeley in 1953. He earned a B.S. in Physics in 1958, and, after a stint in the armed forces, a Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1970. His thesis adviser was the legendary logician Alfred Tarski. His dissertation concerned the Craig interpolation theorem, but in many ways, the most important contribution he made as a graduate student was the extensive editing he did on the monograph *Cylindric Algebras*, by Henkin, Monk, and Tarski.

Don spent two years as an assistant professor in Bloomington, Indiana, before accepting a position at Iowa State in 1971, which he held until his retirement in 2002. During his years in Ames, his reputation as the foremost developer of modern Algebraic Logic grew. Don entertained a series of visitors from around the world who all found him to be a gracious host and energetic collaborator. Together with his colleagues Cliff Bergman, Peter Ladkin and Roger Maddux, he organized a meeting on Algebraic Logic and Universal Algebra in Computer Science in 1988. This ground-breaking meeting led to an ongoing series of conferences now called RAMiCS. At the time of this writing, the 19th edition of the conference had just concluded in Marseille, France.

In addition to his duties in Ames, Don traveled the world to collaborate with researchers in Algebraic Logic. His many ports of call included Manitoba, Chicago, Barcelona, Krakow, Budapest, Siena, Lisbon, Yerevan and Santiago. A look at the explosion in research on Algebraic Logic gives an idea of the enormous influence that his foundational work on the subject has had.

Don is survived by his wife Judy Casey, whom he married (at age 65) in 2000. After retiring from ISU, they moved to Don's childhood home in the Oakland hills.



James A. Stephenson

James A. Stephenson, Emeritus Professor of Economics, died March 17, 2022, at Northridge Village in Ames at the age of 84 years.

Jim Stephenson was born April 7, 1937, in Springfield, Ohio. He earned a BA degree (Cum Laude) in Economics at Wittenberg University in 1960, two MA degrees from the University of California at Berkeley in 1964 (one MA degree in Statistics and the other in Economics), and the PhD degree in Economics at UC Berkeley in 1965.

Jim joined the faculty at Iowa State University in 1964 as an Assistant Professor of Economics. He was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 1967 and to Professor in 1970. He retired in 1994.

Over the years of his employment at Iowa State, Jim often played an important role in the administration of the Economics Department. In the late 1960s, he served as the primary undergraduate advisor in the department. This involved advising 80-100 undergraduate econ majors. During 1977-83 and 1985-87, he served as the department's Director of Graduate Studies. The responsibilities of this position included administration of a large graduate program encompassing both economics and agricultural economics with a combined population of 180-200 students, recruiting new graduate students, making decisions concerning awards of financial assistance, administration of graduate degree requirements for both MS and PhD students, student advising, and job placement.

Jim was a versatile and very effective teacher. Over the years of his employment at Iowa State, he taught ten different undergraduate courses in economics, including both micro and macro

principles of economics, money and banking, international trade, microeconomic theory and macroeconomic theory. At the graduate level, he regularly taught mathematics for economists, microeconomic theory and advanced microeconomic theory, and he also occasionally taught econometrics and welfare economics. He received the ISU Distinguished Teacher Award in 1991.

Jim's research efforts were highly quantitative and often involved cutting-edge econometric techniques. In 1969-70, on leave from ISU, he worked in the research support section of the Division of Research and Statistics at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., assisting in the construction of a large-scale quantitative macroeconomic model of the US economy. For several years after that, he continued to serve as a consultant to the Federal Reserve on matters pertaining to this model and other econometric issues.

In 1974-76, Jim worked in Bangkok, Thailand, on a major ISU economic modeling project funded by the US government. He assisted in the building of a quantitative economic model of the Thai economy for use by the Thai government in its economic planning activities. In subsequent years, he returned to Thailand on several occasions to extend and to bring the model up to date.

In 1987-88, Jim taught at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, under a Fulbright Fellowship in conjunction with an ISU Faculty Improvement Leave. While in Jamaica, he also served as a consultant and advisor to the Planning Institute of Jamaica.

Jim Stephenson is survived by his wife Pat, daughter Catherine Costas of Ely, Nevada, daughter Marnie Moore of Earlham, Iowa, and two grandchildren.

Respectfully Submitted by Dennis R. Starleaf