MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR PROFESSOR JOHN J. PORTER

Dr. John J. Porter, Professor of Psychology in the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, died in an automobile accident on October 22, 1985 at the age of 52. He is survived by his companion, Ann M. Furber, and her son, Trevor. His death is a great loss to his friends, and to many colleagues, students, and professional associates whose personal and professional lives were enriched by his teaching, scholarship, imagination, wit and loyal friendship.

John was one of the first psychology students to graduate from UWM, receiving his B.S. degree in 1958. He was awarded the Ph.D. in psychology in 1961 at the State University of Iowa. Following a year as Assistant Professor at Washburn University, Kansas, he joined the UWM faculty in 1962 and immediately began to establish a solid reputation in teaching and research. Much of his research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Mental Health. It is notable that there were 11 undergraduate co-authors involved in his more than 50 publications and professional meeting papers.

John's contributions to the Psychology Department were numerous and highly valued. Most recently he originated a course in human factors in computing, a topic that had become one of his major research interests. He was recognized as the department's computer expert, and many of his colleagues and their students called upon him for advice and help.

His interests--really enthusiasms--were diverse, ranging from adopting an animal at the zoo to becoming motorcycle racing champion of Canada. He brought into each endeavor a high level of intelligence and determination. He was not one to "suffer fools gladly." His standards were high, but he was always helpful when help was needed.

In an obituary written for members of Mensa of Wisconsin, John was described as having "... an eye for elegance... in mechanical things, computer systems, the scientific method, and in people. He loved Wild Turkey, greasy hamburgers, Ann, and life." John's enthusiasm and love of life is his legacy to us all.

John Porter's professional career was tragically ended before it was fully developed. He had much more to give, and it is with deep regret that we recognize our loss. He will be missed.

Harry Madison
Marilyn Miller
Chan Screven
Alan Swatek
Herman Weil