MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR GLENN K. RIDDLE

Glenn Keith Riddle, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Philosophy, died on October 12, 1987, in his home town of Platteville, Wisconsin.

Glenn was a founding member of UWM's Philosophy Department. Appointed an Instructor in the University of Wisconsin's Milwaukee Extension Division in 1950, he initiated the philosophy curriculum there. He was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1955. That year Cornelius L. Golightly joined him in the Milwaukee Extension Division, and following the merger in 1955 the two made up two-thirds of the Philosophy Department in the new University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Adolph Suppan, from the State Teachers College side, was the remaining one-third.

Glenn chaired the new Department from 1956 to 1963, during which period the Department more than doubled in size. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1960 and to Professor in 1966.

Born and raised in Platteville, Glenn had earned a Bachelor of Education degree in 1938 at what was then the State Teacher's College in Platteville. For some years he supported himself as a high school librarian and English teacher in Minnesota and Illinois. He earned a second bachelor's degree at the University of Illinois in 1945, and after taking several graduate courses at the University of Chicago went on to earn a Master's degree (1948) and a Ph.D. (1955) at the University of Wisconsin -- both degrees in Philosophy.

Ethics and the philosophy of religion were his subjects. In Madison, the late A. Campbell Garnett was his mentor, and his dissertation was a study of recent deontological ethical theories. His 1959 work on the place of benevolence in Bishop Butler's ethics contributed significantly to our understanding of that 18th century divine. The two advanced courses he taught on a regular basis -- Great Moral Philosophers and the Philosophy of Religion -- attracted a body of loyal students who regarded him most highly. But regrettablly, his paper on the concept of God and the textbook he was continually working on never saw the light of day.

Shortly before the end of Semester I, 1969-70, Glenn Riddle was laid low by a stroke. It left him partially paralyzed and helpless. Excellent medical attention he received at the University Hospital in Madison enabled a small degree of recovery, and for some months there was a hope that he could return to teaching; but it was not to be.

He returned to Platteville, where his mother, still vigorous in body and spirit, maintained the family home. In May of 1971 he requested early retirement, and in
October of that year the Regents granted him Emeritus status. His mind clear but his body unresponsive to his will, he spent the last eighteen years of his life in a nursing home. He was 77 when he died.

One might think it waste and tragedy were one not aware of the faith that was his and his family's. The Riddles in Platteville were known as pillars of the Episcopal Church. Glenn clung to that Episcopalian connection throughout his professional career, and it in turn sustained him in his years of infirmity. We are grateful for his life, and for the years of service he gave the UWM Philosophy Department at a critical time in its development.

Professor Emeritus Adolph A. Suppan
(English, Philosophy)
Professor William J. Wainwright
(Philosophy)
Associate Professor David Randall Luce
(Philosophy)