Memorial Resolution for Associate Professor Emeritus

John Stillman

Professor Emeritus John (Jack) Stillman, 64, (Curriculum and Instruction), suffered a fatal heart attack on September 23, 1988 while he was helping the WUWM radio fund drive in the Fine Arts Building. Characteristically, though retired since December, he was nevertheless immersed in the hum of university life, donating his time for a favorite project. Although it was a Friday afternoon, the building was alive with the sounds of musicians practicing; there was a lot going on. Jack, a music lover and people lover, died in a place he cared a lot about.

Prior to coming to UWM in 1958, Jack served in the Air Force as a navigator during World War II. After earning a bachelors degree in 1949 and MS degree in 1951, he was an elementary school teacher for six years. His 30 year career at UWM included several years as Assistant Dean and was primarily devoted to training elementary school teachers. Over the years, through his tireless devotion to improved instruction in the schools, he became synonymous with the elementary education program; as one professional put it, “He was Mr. Elementary Education.” His wide influence in the Milwaukee community and involvement in the state teachers’ organizations led to his nomination last year for the Outstanding Teacher Educator of the Year Award by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Widely sought after by his students and his numerous contacts in the schools, Jack was a voice for humane schools and humane teachers.

We mourn the loss of our gentle, caring colleague and friend.

Jack is survived by his wife, Gertrude, and their sons, Richard of Long Beach, California, and Andrew of Whitefish Bay.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction