MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

FOR

HERMAN KLUGE, PROFESSOR EMERITUS-PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Herman Kluge was born in Milwaukee on 12 January 1905. He completed his secondary education at Milwaukee Riverside High School where he excelled in football and track. He attended Milwaukee Normal School (one of UWM’s predecessor institutions), completing his undergraduate degree in Physical Education with the class of 1928. Here, he continued to excel in the sports of football and track. He began his professional teaching and coaching career at Cudahy High School and continued at Milwaukee Lincoln High School.

In 1931, he returned to his alma mater (then called Milwaukee State Teachers College) as a Physical Education instructor and head coach of football and swimming. After completing his M.A. degree at the New York University, he became Chair of the Physical Education Department and Athletic Director, roles he continued to assume through 1969. From 1946-56, Herm served as the college’s Dean of Men. During his 25 years as head football coach and 38 years as head swimming coach, UWM’s athletic programs met with considerable competitive success, including six state championship teams in football. An innovative coach, Herm created new training techniques and philosophies that were at the professional cutting edge. He retired from fulltime teaching in 1974, continuing parttime for several years thereafter.

During his career, Herman Kluge received many awards for dedication and service to students, the campus and the community. He received the Milwaukee State Teachers College Outstanding Service Award (1955); the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society Award (1966); the UWM Distinguished Alumnus and the Wisconsin State University [Athletic] Conference Service Awards (1970); and the UWM Distinguished Service Award (1983). When the UWM Athletic Hall of Fame was instituted in 1973, Herm was its initial inductee. Upon Herm’s retirement from five years of service as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Trustees in 1983, the UWM Alumni Association and Athletic Department created the Herman Kluge Senior Athlete Awards (one each for a male and female athlete exemplifying high academic and athletic achievement).

Herman Kluge epitomized the dedication and service to young people shown only by those special people who come along too rarely. Still affectionately and respectfully called "Coach" by all of his former athletes and students, Herm gave his life to athletics, to UWM, and to the professional community. Herm’s influence on the value of physical education and athletics has spread throughout the United States. Hundreds of the athletes coached by him and students taught by him have become successful teachers, coaches, and school administrators throughout the nation.

While selfless in giving of his time to his career, he was also the consummate "family man". He and his wife, Betty, raised four children (Ann, Bette, Diane and Richard) who carry on the "Kluge Legacy". On 22 June 1991, Herm suffered a heart attack and departed from this life. That he lives on in the lives, the dedication and the spirit of countless colleagues, students, athletes, family members and friends is a clear statement of his perception of life. Herm was a dedicated, disciplined, intelligent and caring man; he was a man of impact who will be missed and most fondly remembered by all of us who knew him.

Erika Sander, Chairperson
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&

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