MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS CARL W. HIRSCHINGER

Carl W. Hirschinger, professor emeritus and former livestock extension specialist for agriculture and agribusiness programs for UW-Extension died on March 19, 1999 at the age of 66.

Born January 4, 1933, Carl Hirschinger was raised on a farm near Baraboo, Wisconsin and was a graduate of Baraboo High School. He received his bachelor’s degree from UW-Platteville in 1955 and his master’s degree in agricultural extension education from UW-Madison in 1965. Carl started his agricultural career as agriculture instructor at Iola Public Schools from 1955 to 1958. He joined the UW-Extension staff in 1958. Carl served as farm management agent in Winnebago County in 1958, in Outagamie County in 1959 and in Marinette County from 1960 to 1963. He served as county agricultural agent and office chair in Green Lake County from 1963-1971 and joined the faculty in the Department of Meat and Animal Science on April 1, 1971. He retired as an emeritus professor in 1989.

Hirschinger was recognized as an outstanding county agricultural agent for his livestock programs and was selected by the UW-Madison Department of Meat and Animal Science to lead the statewide animal production and evaluation programs. Under Carl’s leadership the programs were quickly updated and expanded. He established many innovative programs and adopted computerized record-keeping for Wisconsin producers. He developed many field demonstrations, bulletins, fact sheets, spoke at meetings throughout the state and teamed with other college faculty to bring the latest livestock production research to the agricultural community. His efforts were recognized by UW-Extension with the Award of Excellence in Extension Programming and the coveted Second Mile Award by the UW agricultural extension agents in 1983.

In the livestock community, Carl was recognized for his innovations and leadership in developing more effective ways in livestock evaluation and improvement. He was a pioneer and early leader in the use of ultrasound, and the application of the computer technology to measure individual animals and herd performance, which were used by livestock farmers to aid in the selection of breeding stock. He organized efforts to establish the bull-testing stations at UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls.

Carl Hirschinger was also instrumental in organizing and improving leadership programs for farm youth. He excelled at developing interest and leadership in extension livestock programs for 4-H and FFA. Carl assisted in organizing statewide livestock judging workshops. He was innovative in developing a youth teaching curriculum and demonstrations that were adopted at the state, regional and national level. He also served as advisor and consultant to several national youth organizations. In 1986, he was recognized for meritorious service by Wisconsin 4-H leaders for his statewide skill in teaching and training of future producers and leaders.

Carl was also active in many organizations, his church and his community. He will always be remembered for his friendship, integrity, enthusiasm, cooperation and commitment to family, friends, colleagues and community.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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Richard Vatthauer
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