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

ON THE DEATH OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR EMERITUS BERNARD P. HAASL


Professor Haasl was born in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, on August 23, 1915, and was a 1932 graduate of Ladysmith High School. He farmed in northern Wisconsin for the following ten years, and served (1942-46) in the U.S. Army in the China-Burma-India theater. Entering the University of Wisconsin-Madison after his military service, he pursued his interest in animals and their products, receiving his B.S. degree in animal husbandry (now animal sciences) in 1950 and his M.S. in animal husbandry and agricultural economics in 1955. For seven years from 1950 he was instructor in the UW Meats Laboratory, and in 1957 he was appointed assistant professor in the (then) Department of Meat and Animal Science. In 1964 he was granted tenure as an assistant professor, a post he held until retirement in 1977.

Bernie Haasl occupied a unique and indispensable position on the Madison campus, managing and operating the slaughterhouse and ancillary processing plant in the Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory. In this capacity he worked closely and very effectively with department and college faculty and students in providing animal material for their research, teaching and extension activities. On occasion he also supplied tissues and organs for medical-school instruction programs. Through his skill, thoroughness and tact, Bernie was able to successfully balance the needs of the university with meat inspection requirements in the processing of thousands of meat animals during his 27 years of service.

Professor Haasl was an effective and highly respected teacher. His contributions to team-taught courses, both in providing classroom material and in lecturing, were vital to the success of the meats program. With his long and broad practical experience, he was an authority on the conversion of animals to meat and meat products, conveying his knowledge with clarity, confidence, and impact. He derived particular pleasure from teaching “Meat and Meat Products” in the Farm and Industry Short Course program. For many years he was solely responsible for the course’s organization, content, and instruction. His long and outstanding service in teaching was recognized in 1977 when he received the Short Course Excellence in Teaching Award.

Bernie married the former Margaret Leonhard in 1951; she preceded him in death in 1995. Bernie was an active member of St. Bernard Catholic Church, the Middleton Kiwanis Club, and was a 3rd Degree and past grand knight of the Knights of Columbus in Middleton. He was also extremely active in the Senior Citizens group in Middleton following his retirement.

Bernie Haasl’s contribution to the department and college was a little-publicized but highly important one, and he is remembered with respect by his former colleagues and students.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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