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

ON THE DEATH OF DEAN EMERITA VALENCIA NATALIE PROCK

Valencia N. Prock, fifth dean of the School of Nursing of the University of Wisconsin-Madison died on December 18, 2003 in Madison at age 84. She was survived by a brother and sister-in-law, three nieces and a nephew.

Dean Prock was born in Cleveland, Ohio, May 3, 1919. Her father died before she was born, and her mother raised her and her brother alone. She graduated from the Metropolitan General Hospital School of Nursing, Cleveland, in 1940, earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing from Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University in 1947 and 1953, and completed a PhD program in social psychology and human development at the University of Chicago in 1965.

Her professional career included several years of public health nursing and a faculty position at Case Western Reserve University. She served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps with the 93rd Evacuation Hospital in Japan in 1945 and 1946.

In 1965 she joined the faculty of the School of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and five years later was named dean. During her tenure as dean, an innovative curriculum was launched, attracting national attention. Graduate programs were expanded and research activity was increased and outstanding faculty were attracted to the school. The PhD program was approved and the school moved to its present location in the Clinical Science Center.

Dean Prock served with the Wisconsin Health Policy Council and the State Board of Nursing, as well as on numerous boards and committees of nursing and health related organizations. In 1972 she was presented the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award. Four years later she was named a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, and was awarded an honorary degree from Edgewood College in Madison in 1991.

Dean Prock retired in 1984, volunteered with the Peace Corps, and served in The Gambia, West Africa from 1987 to 1989. She then returned to Madison, where she spent her remaining years. She volunteered at several organizations, including St. Marys Day Care and the food program at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

A fun-loving person, Prock was an enthusiastic Badger fan. Her zest for living and her interest in people were apparent in whatever she did.

Dean Prock’s 14 years as dean had a significant impact on the School of Nursing. She will be remembered for her contributions to the school, the university and to the nursing profession.

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