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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS LEMUEL A. FRASER

Professor Emeritus of Zoology Lemuel Fraser, age 89, died peacefully on Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

Lemuel was born on June 18, 1918, the son of Lemuel A. and Jean (Burdett) Fraser in Donora, PA. After his father passed away during the 1918 flu epidemic, his family returned to Washington, D.C., where he lived his early years. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree from American University in 1938 and then moved to Wisconsin where he continued his education and received his master’s degree and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison under Lowell E. Noland in 1944. Lem served his country during World War II as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Hamblen.

On his return, he began his teaching career at the University of Texas in Austin. His love for education and desire to educate young minds brought him back to Madison where he taught zoology at the UW for 50 years as professor, serving as departmental chair for over ten years from 1957 to 1968. During that time he yearly taught the very large enrollment Zoology 101 in addition to his specialty courses. One of his greatest joys was the time he spent during the summer months teaching and doing research on invertebrates at the University of Washington station, Friday Harbor, in the San Juan Islands.

Beyond the department, Lem had a great love for nature and the world around him. He contributed generously to numerous organizations, particularly those supporting environmental well-being.

He is survived by a loving son, Burdett Fraser; cherished grandchildren, Dannelle (Andrew) Gay of Sun Prairie, Trevor Fraser of South Korea, Christian, Angela, Terry, DeVonn and Mandy, all of Madison; a great-granddaughter, Sarah Lyn Gay of Sun Prairie; a niece, two nephews, extended family, many friends, colleagues and former students.

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