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

ON THE DEATH OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS STANLEY BERLOW

Stanley Berlow was born June 16, 1921 in New York City. He died December 16, 2005, at the age of 84 years, on Martha’s Vineyard. Stan attended New York University and received a BA in history from the University of Michigan. This was followed by a master’s degree, also in history, from Harvard University. His education was interrupted, as for so many of his generation, by World War II. Stan served in the United States Army, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, from 1942 to 1945. He returned to Harvard, this time to Harvard Medical School from which he was awarded his MD degree. Thereafter he completed an internship at Massachusetts General Hospital, residency at Babies Hospital in New York and subsequently was chief resident in pediatrics at Mass General.

Following his education and training, Stan moved to Milwaukee where he had a pediatric private practice with clinical appointments at Marquette University Medical School. He also spent a short part of his career at Chicago Medical School as an associate professor. He was appointed to a similar position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1971. He served the university in that capacity until his retirement on December 31, 1988, after which he was given emeritus status.

Although an academician for most of his career, at heart Stan was, first and most, a pediatrician. Those who worked with him can remember his gangly frame leaning down over his young patients; he was gentle and endearing, showing kindness, affection and good humor to all of them. For all of his career, Stan provided care for children with special needs, through the Clinic for Retarded Children at Milwaukee Children’s Hospital (1956-1965), the Dysfunctional Child Program in Chicago (1965-1971), and the Diagnostic and Treatment Unit of the Waisman Center (1971-1979) and the Metabolic Program (1971-1988), both at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Through most of the latter part of his career, Stan provided expert care to those born with phenylketonuria and other inborn errors of metabolism. He was a central figure in studies related to the controversy regarding dietary discontinuation in phenylketonuria. He published a modest number of important peer-reviewed articles concerning causes of mental retardation and various inborn errors of metabolism. Over the years he also served on a number of university and state committees and advisory boards, virtually all of which related to the care of children with developmental disabilities or inborn metabolic disorders.

When asked to recall, former colleagues all spontaneously commented on Stan’s laugh – “hearty,” “earthshaking,” “wonderful, sincere,” “eruptive,” “loud,” and “generous.” Indeed, his laughter is imprinted fondly on our memories.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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