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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS PHILLIP A. HART

Professor Emeritus Phillip A. Hart was born on March 2, 1933 in San Jose, California, and died on July 3, 2010 in Ashland, Oregon. He had received the BA degree in chemistry from San Jose State College in 1955, the MS in organic chemistry from the University of Washington in 1957, and the PhD in organic chemistry from Stanford University in 1964. His earliest professional positions as a chemist were with the Stanford Research Institute and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but on completing his doctoral program he joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy as an assistant professor in the area of medicinal chemistry. Here he was promoted to associate professor in 1969 and to professor in 1979. He retired from the university in 1995. Among the assignments he carried out in the School of Pharmacy were his service as manager of the school’s nuclear magnetic resonance facility from 1973-1987, as the School of Pharmacy safety officer for many years, and as assistant dean for graduate studies from 1972-1974. He was chairman of the University of Wisconsin Human Rights Committee, 1972-1974. He also served several deans as secretary of the School of Pharmacy faculty.

Professor Hart’s teaching interests and experience were in the chemistry of organic pharmaceuticals, the organic chemistry of nucleosides, nucleotides, and polynucleotides, and the theory and practice of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), circular dichroism (CD), and optical rotator dispersion (ORD) spectroscopies, especially as applied to conformational analysis. His research notably dealt with the conformational analysis of nucleosides, using NMR and the instrumental technique known as the nuclear Overhauser effect. He assisted many scientists from other departments in the university in making use of ORD and CD data in their research, and his patient advice to young faculty researchers in the School of Pharmacy is remembered gratefully by many.

Professor Hart was a pianist and often played jazz piano in the annual talent show sponsored by School of Pharmacy students. After his retirement from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Professor Hart moved to the state of Oregon where he continued to pursue his professional interests by teaching a course on drugs and poisons at Southern Oregon State College. Professor Hart’s wife Marylin, an artist who was represented by the Grace Chosy Gallery in Madison, preceded him in death in September 2009. They are survived by their sons Steven D. Hart and Jeffrey L. Hart.

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