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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS MAURY WHITE

Professor emeritus Maurice E. “Maury” White, who oversaw the education of more than 3,000 students as Short Course director, and whose booming baritone was known statewide as the voice of UW farm radio, died on March 15 in Madison at the age of 95. He died peacefully at Oakwood Village University Woods, after years of living with Alzheimer's disease.

Maury was born on Dec. 14, 1918, on the family farm, near Clam Falls, Wisconsin. He was one of seven children born to George and Geraldine White. After graduating from Ashland High School in 1938, he entered the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he majored in agricultural journalism. With one semester remaining for his bachelor's degree, Maury was drafted into the U.S. Army and served four years in various countries around the world. He concluded his military career at General Douglas Mac Arthur's headquarters in the Philippines. Resuming civilian life, Maury completed his bachelor's and master's degrees at UW-Madison. On June 14, 1947, Maury was united in marriage to Grace Emily Witter.

Maury joined the faculty in the UW-Madison Department of Agricultural Journalism (now Life Sciences Communication), where he was radio farm director and assistant professor. After earning his Ph.D. at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., he returned to UW-Madison as a full professor in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. He served in various academic and administrative positions, including director of Farm and Industry Short Course. As a faculty member, his teaching and research focused on agricultural communications and broadcasting. In addition to teaching UW students, he instructed county agents from Wisconsin and other states in the use of radio and television. The year prior to his 1986 retirement was spent at the Institut Pertanian Bogor in Bogor, Indonesia.

Maury's voice was a key asset for his professional career as a radio broadcaster and in his personal life. Beginning in high school he sang in choral groups, and continued singing until the end of his life. He sang a solo at his church on his 90th birthday.

Maury and Grace raised four children in Madison. They spent as much time as possible enjoying their cabins in the north woods of Wisconsin and managing their various woodlands. Their love of nature lured them to hike, canoe, ski and camp, camera in hand, capturing nature's beauty and wonder.