Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison  
On the Death of Professor Emeritus Robert R. Ammerman

Robert R. Ammerman joined the Department of Philosophy in 1957, rose to the rank of Professor, and retired in 1989. After living in Italy for a year, he settled in Florida. In 2001, he moved to Cincinnati, Ohio to be closer to his son and grandchildren. Bob died on May 28, 2021.

Bob was born in Buffalo, New York in 1927, and moved to West Chester, Pennsylvania in 1937. In 1945, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 88th Infantry Division in Italy. In 1947, he participated in the first United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Trieste. Discharged in 1948, he enrolled at Swarthmore College in 1949, graduating with highest honors in 1953. After a year pursuing graduate studies in philosophy at Princeton University, he transferred to Brown University. He received his doctorate in 1956, completing his dissertation under the guidance of Richard Taylor.

The philosophical idea that fascinated Bob most was Ludwig Wittgenstein’s suggestion that philosophical puzzlement arises from a misunderstanding of language; once these misunderstandings are dispelled, the problems dissolve. Bob was a close colleague of William Hay, Marcus Singer, and Claudia Card. With Singer, he edited *Introductory Readings in Philosophy* in 1962, which was widely adopted as a textbook around the country. His anthology, *Classics in Analytic Philosophy*, first published in 1966, is still in print. Bob was passionate about teaching undergraduates. He introduced several new courses – for example, *Death and Dying and Man, Religion, and Society*. Bob was one of the most popular teachers in the Philosophy Department.