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**James A. Stephenson**

James A. Stephenson, Emeritus Professor of Economics, died March 17, 2022, at Northridge Village in Ames at the age of 84 years.

Jim Stephenson was born April 7, 1937, in Springfield, Ohio. He earned a BA degree (Cum Laude) in Economics at Wittenberg University in 1960, two MA degrees from the University of California at Berkeley in 1964 (one MA degree in Statistics and the other in Economics), and the PhD degree in Economics at UC Berkeley in 1965.

Jim joined the faculty at Iowa State University in 1964 as an Assistant Professor of Economics. He was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 1967 and to Professor in 1970. He retired in 1994.

Over the years of his employment at Iowa State, Jim often played an important role in the administration of the Economics Department. In the late 1960s, he served as the primary undergraduate advisor in the department. This involved advising 80-100 undergraduate econ majors. During 1977-83 and 1985-87, he served as the department’s Director of Graduate Studies. The responsibilities of this position included administration of a large graduate program encompassing both economics and agricultural economics with a combined population of 180-200 students, recruiting new graduate students, making decisions concerning awards of financial assistance, administration of graduate degree requirements for both MS and PhD students, student advising, and job placement.

Jim was a versatile and very effective teacher. Over the years of his employment at Iowa State, he taught ten different undergraduate courses in economics, including both micro and macro principles of economics, money and banking, international trade, microeconomic theory and macroeconomic theory. At the graduate level, he regularly taught mathematics for economists, microeconomic theory and advanced microeconomic theory, and he also occasionally taught econometrics and welfare economics. He received the ISU Distinguished Teacher Award in 1991.

Jim’s research efforts were highly quantitative and often involved cutting-edge econometric techniques. In 1969-70, on leave from ISU, he worked in the research support section of the Division of Research and Statistics at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., assisting in the construction of a large-scale quantitative macroeconomic model of the US economy. For several years after that, he continued to serve as a consultant to the Federal Reserve on matters pertaining to this model and other econometric issues.

In 1974-76, Jim worked in Bangkok, Thailand, on a major ISU economic modeling project funded by the US government. He assisted in the building of a quantitative economic model of the Thai economy for use by the Thai government in its economic planning activities. In subsequent years, he returned to Thailand on several occasions to extend and to bring the model up to date.

In 1987-88, Jim taught at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, under a Fulbright Fellowship in conjunction with an ISU Faculty Improvement Leave. While in Jamaica, he also served as a consultant and advisor to the Planning Institute of Jamaica.

Jim Stephenson is survived by his wife Pat, daughter Catherine Costas of Ely, Nevada, daughter Marnie Moore of Earlham, Iowa, and two grandchildren.

*Respectfully Submitted by Dennis R. Starleaf*



**Neil E. Harl**

Neil E. Harl, Emeritus Professor of Economics and Emeritus Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture, died November 4, 2021, at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames at age 88 years.

Neil Harl was born October 9, 1933, in his parents’ farm home in Appanoose County, Iowa. He attended local public schools and graduated from Seymour High School in 1951. He then enrolled in Iowa State College (as ISU was then named) and graduated in 1955. After a brief stint of active duty in the US Army, he enrolled in the College of Law at the University of Iowa and graduated from that institution with a Juris Doctor degree in 1961. He then enrolled in the graduate program of the Economics Department at ISU and graduate with a PhD in Economics in the spring of 1965.

He became a member of the Iowa State University faculty on December 1, 1964, as an Associate Professor of Economics. He was promoted to Professor on July 1, 1967 and became a Distinguished Professor in 1976.

During his years on the ISU faculty, Harl’s appointment was divided among teaching, research and extension n, with approximately one-half time devoted to teaching. He primarily taught two courses at the undergraduate level – agriculture law and resource economics — and three courses at the graduate level – advanced resource economics, water resources, and antitrust and trade regulation. He was known as an excellent, innovative and effective instructor at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and he was the recipient of numerous teaching awards. Here are four of the teaching awards that he received: Outstanding Teacher Award, Iowa State University, 1973; Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award, American Agricultural Economics Association, 1976; Outstanding Educator, Mortar Board, 1989; Regence Award for Faculty Excellence, 1993

Neil Harl is widely known and respected for his prodigious output of scholarly publications. He was the author or co-author of more than 300 scholarly articles and professional bulletins. And he produced a 15-volume treatise, *Agriculture Law,* which he updated twice annually for years. This work came to define the subdiscipline of agricultural law. It was used widely by attorneys and legal scholars throughout the US.

Neil Harl worked diligently to increase the legal and economic knowledge base of attorneys, CPAs, lenders, those in business, farmers, and families through out the United States as well as in Iowa. For example, In 1974, he inaugurated two Farm Income Tax Schools for practitioners in Iowa. The two-day schools were expanded to eight at various locations in Iowa and reached 1200 to 1400 attorneys CPAs and other tax practitioners each year. Here are four awards that he received for his extension activity: Faculty Service Award, National University Extension Association, 1980; Distinguished Service Award, Iowa State University Extension, 1984; Distinguished Service to Iowa Agriculture, Iowa Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, 1996; Charles A. Black Award for “Ability to disseminate research findings to the public”, Council for Agricultural Science and Technology,1997.

Neil Harl retired from ISU in 2005.

Neil was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene. He is survived by his two sons, James and Rodney, and five grandchildren.

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