Memorial Resolution
Verner Phillips Weaver

Be it resolved that on February 20, 2009, the faculty and staff of the College of Education at the University of Maryland honor the life and professional career and acknowledge the death of V. Phillips Weaver, former professor emeritus in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Phil passed away from pneumonia on November 17, 2008, in La Plata, Md., at the age of 79. He is survived by his wife of 11 years, Anne Skone Jameson Weaver; three children: Scott C. Weaver, Tamea Weaver Bowen, and Virginia Weaver Marquess; a sister, Barbara Weaver Beisel; and six grandchildren. His wife, of 34 years, Barbara Baum Weaver, died in 1989.

Phil was born and grew up in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He attended the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1951. He taught elementary school for several years, before going on to complete his doctorate in Education in 1962 at The Pennsylvania State University.

Phil joined the College of Education faculty at the University of Maryland as an assistant professor in 1962. He rose to the rank of professor and served as department head, assuming numerous roles of leadership. He authored a series of widely-used elementary school social studies textbooks, as well as numerous other scholarly publications. Phil retired from the College in 1991. Many of his graduate students in education remain grateful for his mentorship, support and the high standards that he set.

As a former student described him, Phil was “serious and a bit intimidating; he always got right down to business. He had high expectations for his students and pushed us to the max. He was determined to help his students succeed.”

Particularly interested in intercultural learning experiences, Phil traveled widely with his family, studying school systems in Hungary, Germany, Spain, Portugal, and Greece. Also an avid aficionado of the arts, he was a patron of the Baltimore Opera Company and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., where he served as a docent for many years following his retirement. He actively supported the National Building Museum, the Smithsonian Institute, and the National Cathedral in D.C. In addition he was a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Historical Society of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. According to a former colleague, “Phil loved to talk politics.” He was a supporter of the Democratic Party and a proud ‘card-carrying member’ of the American Civil Liberties Union. He also sang in several church choirs and supported many charitable organizations.

The College of Education is thankful for the services rendered by Dr. V. Phillips Weaver and extends its heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

February 20, 2009