Memorial Resolution

Leonard Woolf

Be it resolved that on February 11, 2005, 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 Dr. Leonard Woolf, Professor Emeritus and former director of English Education in the Departments of Secondary Education and later, Curriculum and Instruction.

Leonard was born March 27, 1916, and lived his entire life in Maryland. His extensive career included posts as a secondary school teacher and then as supervisor of English in both the Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

He was a graduate of the Baltimore Hebrew College and earned his bachelor’s degree from Towson State Teachers College and Johns Hopkins University. He continued his education at the University of Maryland where he completed his master’s and doctoral degrees. He joined the Department of Secondary Education in the College of Education in 1968 and retired in 1983.

Leonard’s colleagues and students remember him for his gentle and persistent mentoring of both undergraduate and graduate students and for his great sense of humor. He was fond of saying, “meanings grow gradually,” and he patiently guided many students through the challenges of learning to become good teachers. He developed a successful innovative graduate program in collaboration with the Prince George’s County Public Schools, which allowed two graduate students to share a paid teaching position and combine realistic teaching experience with opportunities for reflection and further learning.

While his teaching in the classroom and on campus was exemplary, Leonard was a teacher and leader in other parts of his life. He was a Cantor Emeritus of the Nevey Shalom congregation in Bowie, Maryland. His beautiful voice and inspirational singing contributed to services in many synagogues in the area. After his wife Jesse passed away, Leonard became deeply involved with grief counseling and leadership of bereavement groups, and this part of this work as a master teacher helped many others deal with the difficult issues surrounding the loss of loved ones.

Leonard Woolf passed away on January 29, 2005 at the age of 88. He is survived by his sister, Muriel Kramer, his daughter Barbara Woolf Carson, and son-in-law Raymond Carson, as well as grandsons Joshua and Samuel Carson.

The College of Education is grateful for Leonard’s dedication and service to the University of Maryland, and extends its sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

February 11, 2005