Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

JOHN E. KADLEC (1931-1994)

John E. Kadlec, Professor and Assistant Head of Agricultural Economics, joined the Purdue faculty in 1959. He coordinated the Department's teaching program for 20 years. He is widely known for his enthusiasm for teaching farm management to Purdue students, farmers and professional farm managers. He has counseled innumerable students and farm families, particularly helping the students who returned to the farm, work into the farm business.

He received the Best Teacher Award in Purdue Agriculture in 1981, Best Fraternity Advisor Award in 1988, and the American Agricultural Economics Association Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award in 1993. He authored a textbook on farm management and numerous research and extension publications. He also conducted research and lectured to farm and agribusiness groups in the areas of business strategy, computerized models for farm decision making, and economic evaluation of swine production systems.

He served the Department, University, and community unselfishly. He played key roles in curriculum planning and numerous other areas including two terms in the University Senate and as its chair in 1987-88. John was a tireless champion of Purdue University, Purdue Agriculture, and his department.

He was born November 29, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois and grew up in Plymouth, Indiana. He received his B.S. in Animal Sciences in 1953, M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics in 1957 and 1959, all from Purdue University.

John was leader in his church, a member of Rotary International, and Knights of Columbus. He was a devoted family man. He and Mary Nell have four sons, John, Michael, Greg, and Steve. With them all he enjoyed sailing, fishing and the out-of-doors.