

Professor Emeritus, Paul R. Wolf, CP, PE, PLS, PhD

June 13, 1934 - March 5, 2002



THREE PAULS AND THE OTHER GUY

"It's not what you take in life, it's what you give."

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Dr. Paul R. Wolf, age 67, passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 2002, peacefully at home, following a courageous battle with prostate cancer. Wolf was born June 13, 1934 in Mazomanie, Wisconsin. He graduated from Mazomanie High School in 1952 and served in the U.S. Army in Japan for 2 years. Later, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and the University of Wisconsin - Madison, graduating with a baccalaureate degree in Civil Engineering in 1960.

Wolf began his career as a highway engineer for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, then joined the UW-Madison as an instructor in 1963, and completed his master's (1965) and doctoral (1967) degrees in the area of surveying and analytical photogrammetry. In 1967, he joined the civil engineering faculty at the University of California-Berkeley. In 1970, he returned to continue his teaching career at his alma mater.

Paul Wolf was known as an extremely gifted teacher and mentor, and enjoyed a wonderful relationship with his students; not only as "teacher-to-student," but as "friend-to-friend." Virtually all of his approximately 50 graduate students now hold distinguished positions in education, government, and business throughout the world. Wolf's global impact on education in the broad fields of surveying, mapping and photogrammetry was also accomplished through his authorship of multiple editions of three standard-setting textbooks on these subjects: *Elements of Photogrammetry* (with B.A. Dewitt), *Elementary Surveying* (with R.C. Brinker and C. D. Ghilani), and *Adjustment Computations: Statistics and Least Squares in Surveying and GIS* (with C. D. Ghilani). These books have been translated and published internationally in several foreign languages.

From 1979 until his retirement in 1993, Wolf was head of the Surveying, Photogrammetry, and Remote Sensing Division at UW-Madison. In "retirement," he continued his extensive writing activities and working as a consultant, becoming an internationally recognized expert in accident reconstruction and forensic applications of surveying and photogrammetry. He was a frequently invited lecturer to a variety of professional and academic programs around the world. In 2003 Wolf was bestowed the title of Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department.

Over the years, Wolf published over 120 research papers and received numerous professional awards, honors, research fellowships and citations from various professional organizations. These included the Keuffel & Esser Surveying Fellowship, the National Science Foundation Geometronics Fellowship, the Cubic Corp. Fellowship, the Bausch and Lomb Research Award, the Talbert Abrams Scientific Developments in Photogrammetry Award, the Earle J. Fennel Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Profession of Surveying, the Surveying and Mapping Award of the American Society of Civil

Engineers, the UW College of Engineering Alumni Teaching Quality Award, and the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors Honorary Award for Educational Contributions.

Even though he was busy with his teaching, writing, and lecturing, Wolf found time to participate in ASPRS activities. He served as Charter President of the Wisconsin Chapter of ASP, was Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee, authored chapter 19 of the Manual of Photogrammetry Fourth Edition, served as National Director of the Great Lakes and Western Great Lakes Region for six years, was on the Compass Committee for three years, was ASPRS Representative to Commission VI of ISPRS from 1972 to 1980, ran for ASPRS Vice President in 1982, attended every ISPRS meeting since 1972, and was Chair of Working Group-3 of ISPRS Commission VI (Education in Photogrammetry) from 1976 to 1980.

Wolf was a devout member of his church and especially enjoyed the time he spent with his family, friends, and faithful dog Gracie. He was also an avid fisherman, wood worker and gardener, and loved spending time at his cabin near Minocqua. To friends who visited his home, he regularly sent along a jar of Professor Paul's Perfect Pickles.

Aside from his beloved family, Wolf's greatest academic pride was for the accomplishments of his students. He subscribed to and coined the philosophy that "All members of society bear responsibility for educating our young people, not just professors and teachers. All members of society benefit from well-educated students to replenish our ranks in all professions, and engineering is certainly no exception."

Paul Wolf will be missed by all who knew and loved him. He is survived by his wife Lynn, and his children Paul (Ann), Timothy (Pam), Jodie, his stepchildren, Lane (Ellen), Kara and Marc (Karen), 9 grandchildren, 6 siblings: Frank (Eva), John (Alena), Mary, Josephine, June (John), and Lucille (Don), and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Gertrude Wolf, his baby sister Ellen Gertrude and brother, Congressman Leonard Wolf (IA).

Memorials may be made to the University of Wisconsin Foundation for the Paul R. Wolf Professorship, P.O. Box 8860, Madison, WI 53708 - contact 608-263-4545.