G. Conrad Dalman passed away peacefully on September 14, 2011, at Cayuga Medical Center at the age of 94. Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on April 7, 1917, the son of Conrad Frederick (Jonsson) Dalman and Valgerdur (Thorsteinnsdottir) Dalman. Conrad was predeceased by his wife, Catherine (Stewart) Dalman on May 7, 2008, and his sister, Olga Dalman Goolsby. He is survived by his four children, Diana (Bruce) Dotson, Kristine (Peter) Dalman, Karen Dalman and Conrad S. Dalman; four grandchildren, Matthew (Susan) Dotson-Smith, Sarah (Jeff) Hetmanski, Jonathan (Elaine) Dotson, and Dan (Heidi) Nielsen; six great grandchildren, Serena and Maya Dotson, Hannah and Spencer Hetmanski, Callum and Remi Dotson. He is also survived by a niece, Linda (Todd) Crow.

After the family immigrated to New York, Conrad graduated from Stuyvesant High School in 1935, he continued on to earn a B.E.E. from the City College of New York, and an M.E.E. and D.E.E. from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He began his professional career in industry, working for fourteen years in electron device development and research for RCA, Bell Telephone Laboratories and the Sperry Gyroscope Company. During World War II he worked for the Signal Corps developing radar techniques.

In 1956, Conrad was recruited to join the Cornell faculty to start a research program on physical electronics in the School of Electrical Engineering. In addition to teaching, he served as director of the school from 1975 to 1980. Connie, as he was familiarly called, was noted for his very even temper and carefully measured speech. In his dealings with others he was not shy but always circumspect to convey his views so as not to arouse animosity in others. He welcomed new members to the faculty in areas related to his own, and helped them get started in their research programs. He also initiated the effort to establish the Cornell University Microwave Research Laboratory. In the mid 1960's this laboratory was thought by the industry to be the number one program in microwaves in the country, and was heavily funded by the Air Force Rome Laboratory. Starting assistant professors like Joseph Ballantyne appreciated his inclusion in the program which gave a boost to the start of his own lab. The Microwave Research Laboratory grew into the Cornell Solid State Electronic Device Research Programs in the EE School which contributed to the establishment of the National Research and Resource Facility for Submicron
Structures (NRRFSS,) on campus. NRRFSS eventually evolved into the present-day Cornell NanoFabrication Facility (CNF) at Cornell.

Connie chaired the Ph.D. committees of many graduate students at Cornell. He loved teaching and was voted most popular professor by the students many times. His participation in industrial activity continued as a consultant to several firms and as a co-founder of the Cayuga Associates Division of the Narda Microwave Corporation. During one sabbatical leave in 1962-63 he was project manager of the United Nations Special Fund China Project and Visiting Professor at National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, where he took his family. Among his affiliations are Fellow, I.E.E.E., Mem. Am. Phys. Soc., A.A.A.S., Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu, the Icelandic Society of N.Y., and he authored books, papers and articles. Even long after retirement he enjoyed skiing, daily swimming, photography, taking the family on picnics, and working in his home lab.

Upon becoming an Emeritus Professor in 1987, he continued for several years working on some research projects in his lab at Cornell and to advise and assist students upon request. Just prior to his passing he was interviewed by a student regarding her thesis on the history of the electronics industry in Taiwan. A favorite pastime throughout his retirement was visiting the Cornell Engineering Library whose staff he commended often.

He will long be remembered as a cheerful colleague by his peers, and as a true mentor by his many students.

Chung Tang, Chairperson; Clifford Pollock, Joseph Ballantine
Cletus Daniel

December 26, 1943 – April 18, 2010

When Cletus Daniel died suddenly, his family lost a devoted husband, father, and loving grandfather; Cornell lost a distinguished scholar; students lost a brilliant teacher; staff members lost a friend and advocate; and those who loved him and were honored to be his friends lost an irreplaceable part of their lives.

We know that Clete was adamantly opposed to any public celebration of his life, but as his family stated in his obituary, we believe “in our hearts that he could accept, if not understand, our strong need to share our reflections on the life of this most private and beloved man.”

Clete was born on December 26, 1943 in Salinas, California only a few months after his family had left the coal fields of western Kentucky. He grew up listening to his father’s grim stories of the brutal hardships that digging coal underground inflicts. Clete spoke often of how what he called life’s darker possibilities gained confirmation and reinforcement from that dangerous and exhausting work and how difficult it was for so many to have humane values in the midst of constant reminders of life’s cheapness.

Clete also grew up in a culture of pervasive poverty. He was a gifted student but described school more as a respite or haven from his home life, and also as a promise of life’s possibilities where a hug or an affectionate pat on the shoulder was a nice add-on. He said that learning to read was emancipating. He also said that Dick and Jane described a world that he longed to inhabit: a peaceful, orderly, predictable place where the food was bountiful, the fun was wholesome, and the parents were loving but responsible.

Clete found himself in classes with the children of wealthy growers who controlled the central California economy. The chasm of opportunity and affluence that lay between him and his fellow students made a lasting impact on him. He spoke and wrote, for example, about the class divide between Mexican workers in the fields and the agribusiness landowners. This instilled in Clete a passion for justice that was at the core of his teaching and writing.

After high school, Clete went to work at the Campbell’s Soup factory in Sacramento. His hilarious descriptions of the soup-making process and its “ingredients” vastly increased the membership of Soup’s Anonymous’ twelve step program. If you’ve ever eaten their Cream of Mushroom soup, you’ll want to stop now. He took advantage of California’s free (at the time) community college and state university system to obtain his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at San Jose State University. He then completed the doctoral program at the University of Washington. (“They paid me to go to school” he would later recall. “What a racket.”)

Clete would relate how he often watched the Southern Pacific passenger train as it came through town and wondered what it would feel like to sit in the brightly-lit dining car and be observed by motionless watchers such as himself. He would add that he was never bold enough to imagine that someday he could be that traveler.
In 1973, this “almost accidental academic” traveled to Ithaca to become a Cornell University faculty member and Assistant Professor of History in the ILR School. Clete was a brilliant teacher who prepared every class thoroughly as a basis, not for rote lecturing, but for exciting and substantive classroom discussions with his students. He received a Distinguished Achievement in Teaching Award in 2002. His dedication to students also motivated him to become Director of the ILR School’s Credit Internship Program in 1989 and to oversee its development into world-wide opportunities for students that have changed many students’ lives for their own good and the good of others.

Clete’s research concerned people too poor, powerless, or dark skinned to fight back and who, too often, developed a sense of resignation and defeat. He believed that working class had the same ratio of fools to saints as every other class, but he knew from the first-hand experience of his early years that the working class was not and could not be the real malefactors of society.

His first book, Bitter Harvest: A History of California Farmworkers 1870-1941, was a history, as he described it “of the powerlessness of an occupational group: the men, women, and children who worked for wages in the fields and orchards of California.” It explained how that powerlessness was a product of the political and economic power of organized agribusiness interests. Clete dedicated the book to his father “who worked with his hands.” He also acknowledged his indebtedness to those who inspired the book: the Mexican farm laborers “who worked alongside me in the lettuce fields.” He called them his “first heroes.” He wrote that they showed and taught him compassion, that “they never permitted the wretchedness of their lives to rob them of their dignity,” and that, although “their names are not remembered,” their “faces and singular heroism are indelibly etched in my memory.”

In Chicano Workers and the Politics of Fairness: The FEPC in the Southwest 1941-1945, Clete wrote about the approximately three million Mexican and Mexican-Americans who were among those whose “race, color, creed, gender or national origin rendered them ineligible to participate fully and equally in the singular competition for material gain and social advantage that this country afforded.” Here he developed further the theme of the gap between American promise and practice and the experiences of “ineligible Americans” trying to reconcile the America of their dreams with the America of their experience.

Clete’s other books, The ACLU and the Wagner Act: An Inquiry into the Depression Era Crisis of American Liberalism and The Culture of Misfortune: An Interpretive History of Textile Unionism in the United States, extended his exploration of power and powerlessness and of efforts to reconstruct American society “at long last along the lines of the nation’s professed democratic ideals.” We know that Clete would have objected to a “then he wrote” remembrance, so we will say no more about his distinguished scholarly contributions.

More than anything we remember all the small things that made him the man that we love. Clete was as quick with a hug as he was with good natured humor. He loved to laugh at your expense or his own and would laugh until the tears welled up in his eyes. He loved red wine and Swiss chocolate, reading The Onion and watching the Simpsons. He hated having loose threads on his clothes and he was an insanely impatient driver. He loved well made shoes, his socks always matched his pants, and he had an amazing collection of ties. Clete liked to look good, but it was
not about vanity, but a response to a childhood where the shoes never fit, the socks always had holes, and the clothes were never new. To say he had a salty tongue would be an understatement, and he had the highest respect for people who took swearing to an art. He loved jazz, generously sharing his vast collection with his friends, and he spoke with a mix of envy and pride about his musician brothers. He was a true skeptic, but never let that morph into pessimism or cynicism. He loved words and would spend hours crafting emails, letters, and lectures. He believed that being a father was the most important thing he had ever done as a man. He loved rumbling summer thunder, the sound of the ocean in Cannon Beach, Oregon, and an oak tree on Libe’s Slope that he believed was beautiful in every season. Van Gogh was his favorite painter, Paris his favorite city, Mexican his favorite food, and as a young man, Clete dreamt of traveling to the world that Hemingway wrote about, but seemed so alien to the young man from Salinas.

Clete was a deeply private person with a very small circle of close friends. For those of us privileged to be in that group, he was expansive and open, funny and playful, tender and generous, and fiercely protective. He believed anger was the hallmark of his personality, and he was quick to anger, rarely forgave a slight, and could send an email so withering as to “make our sphincter tighten,” in his words. But that anger never led him to joylessness. If anything, he was able to find laughter even in life’s darkest moments. It is this example that is the hardest to follow for those of us who miss him so much. While Clete believed anger to be his hallmark, in fact it was his kindness. Above all, he was kind and compassionate and most admired kindness in others. As he put it, “smart is good, but kind is better.” He could not abide the pretense and inordinate self-regard of what he called “self-promoting careerist gas bags.” He gloried in puncturing those gas bags with his piercing wit.

In his 1992 ILR Commencement address, Clete said that the “uniquely human nutrients – tolerance, generosity, understanding, compassion – sustain and invigorate the spirit as well as ennoble the mind.” He lived out those words in every aspect of his life. Clete Daniel was truly a man for all seasons, a colleague for all seasons, and a friend for all seasons. Nothing will be the same without him.

*James Gross, Chairperson; Lee Dyer, Risa Lieberwitz & Brigid Beachler*
Alexander Davis, known as Sandy, died at his home in Geneva, NY on April 15, 2012. Sandy joined the Department of Entomology at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in 1950 and retired in 1983. During his career, his primary research responsibilities were to develop effective, practical and safe control programs for vegetable insect pests. He was a pioneer in leading the vegetable industry away from older, more persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon and heavy metal-based insecticides to newer organic materials that became available from 1945-1960’s. He was a man of multiple talents and during the mid-1960’s was chosen to ensure that a new building that was created to house the Entomology and Plant Pathology Departments was properly designed and constructed to fit the diverse needs of the two departments. After spending nearly 2 years in this building design project, he took a year’s sabbatical lead with the USDA, working with the Cooperative States Research Service. After his return to the department he was assigned to be the state coordinator for vegetable entomology research throughout NY state. During the later years of his career he served as the Assistant Director of the New York State Agricultural Experiment and from 1982 until his retirement in 1983 became the Acting Director. He was not only a visionary leader of the vegetable entomology program, but was also active in serving his community.

Sandy was born in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, on October 6th, 1920. He was the son of Dr. Malcolm Bancroft Davis, the former Dominion horticulturist of Canada, and Florence Cochran Davis. An alumnus of the University of Guelph in Ontario, CA, he was also a graduate of Toronto University. After receiving his Ph.D. in entomology from Cornell he became a faculty member of the Entomology department in 1950.

During his 33-year career at Cornell, Sandy investigated the biology and control of a large number of key insect pests species on vegetables grown in NY state. Under his leadership the vegetable industry was able to make a successful transition to newer insecticides with no serious adverse side effects. During the later stages of his career he worked closely with Dr. R.J. Kuhr on the fate of pesticides applied to agricultural crops. He also contributed to the expanded IR-4 minor use pesticide registration program and facilitated the registration of many badly needed compounds for the vegetable industry in New York and surrounding states. He was active in the
Entomological Society of America and served as the Secretary, Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Crop Protection Section. He also was a member of the ESA Finance Committee and organized and conducted multiple workshops on vegetable insect problems.

Sandy was known for his ability to conceptualize scientific research programs and design facilities to house them. He designed a toxicology laboratory for the initial entomology building at the New York State Agricultural experiment station and interfaced with the professional staff and the architect on the design for Cornell's new Hudson Valley Laboratory at Highland, New York. These experiences demonstrated his talents in building design and he was chosen to represent the Station in the construction of the new Entomology Plant Pathology Building, which was completed in 1969. He used his imagination and ability to conceptualize the future needs of these two departments and working with the architects, converted these to laboratories, greenhouses and equipment that was functionally and esthetically comparable to any facilities found throughout the world.

In 1972, Sandy took a sabbatical leave with the USDA and this experience brought new insight and imagination to his program and he was able to interact with a number of entomology departments throughout the US while conducting departmental reviews. He also assisted the USDA in their dealings with pesticide regulation by the EPA. His talents were highly regarded by the Cooperative States Research Service that the agency retained him as a consultant to continue to conduct departmental reviews, represent CSRS at meetings and continue to assist the organization in its dealings with the EPA after his return to the entomology department at Cornell.

In his earlier years Sandy enjoyed golfing, bridge, wine making and winters in Sarasota, Florida. He enjoyed preparing gourmet meals for his friends and family and enjoyed travel and fine dining at restaurants throughout the US. He maintained a strong interest in his local community of Geneva, NY and served as President of the PTA, Treasurer of North Presbyterian Church and worked with a local group of preservationists to restore and preserve the Smith Opera House. Local affiliations included membership in the Geneva Country Club, the Seneca Yacht Club and the Geneva area branch of the NAACP. He was a descendent of noted seafarers. His great-grandfather Samuel Bancroft Davis, was a sea captain from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, famous for his “Vision in the Night,” which redirected his ship to rescue another ship in distress. He was also a descendant of Joshua Slocum, the first person to sail around the world solo.

Sandy is survived by daughters Kristin Leigh David of Scarsdale, NY, and Diana Valerie Davis; and son in law Edward John Michaels of Geneva, NY. He was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Anita Naomi Davis and his brother, John Malcolm.

Harvey Reissig, Chairperson;
Anthony Shelton
Pieter Cornelis Tobias de Boer was born in Leiden, The Netherlands, on May 21, 1930 and died on May 3, 2016 in Ithaca, New York at the age of 85. Known to friends, family and colleagues as Tob, he finished his undergraduate and master’s degrees at the University of Delft in 1954. In a 2013 video interview, Tob said that his first interest was mathematics but that he did not want to ‘swim in his own small pond’. Physics was his next choice, but he was dissuaded by a Dutch physicist who told Tob ‘in physics you will not have your own car’. So he chose mechanical engineering at Delft, studying with Professor Johannes Martinus (Jan) Burgers. Burgers brought math, physics and experiments to the study of fluid mechanics, and Tob adopted this model for the rest of his career.

Tob served in the Dutch military, rising to the rank of lieutenant. In 1956 Tob married Joan Lieshut. The newly married Joan and Tob moved to the United States, where Tob earned his Ph.D. in 1962 in physics under Professor Jan Burgers, who had moved to the University of Maryland. During this time the de Boer’s three children, Maarten, Claire, and Yvette were born.

The de Boers arrived in Ithaca in 1964 where Tob took a position in the Graduate School of Aerospace Engineering at Cornell as an assistant professor. Bill Sears had just finished his directorship of the Aero School, and his successor Ed Resler made Tob the offer. In the Cornell Aero School of the late 1960’s Tob’s faculty colleagues included Shan-Fu Shen, Don Turcotte, Peter Auer, Dick Seebass, Al George and Terry Cool.

Tob initially studied the physics of shock waves in fluids. His first teaching course was Advanced Kinetic Theory of Fluids. The 1960’s were exciting times in fluid mechanics especially since President Kennedy had put the U.S. on a path to the Moon making space sciences all the rage. In the 1966 Aero School research log book, thirty students and researchers are listed. In 1966 Tob was assigned advisor to students, William Condit, N. Hubbard, P.R.
Grinwood and R. Kinsinger and researchers Arnold Frohn and R.A. Johnson, with most of whom Tob would co-author his first Cornell research papers.

Tob was promoted to associate professor in 1968, and to full professor in 1974, two years after the formation of the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Tob took summer and sabbatical leaves at the Aerospace Corporation, the von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics, Ford Motor Company, General Electric, Delft University of Technology, Centre National de la Recherche, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Over the years, his research encompassed shock wave physics, fuel injection and engine emissions control. In later years, Tob’s academic interests focused on thermodynamic analysis and optimal design of pulse-tube cryocoolers, which emerged in the 1980s and are now used in semiconductor fabrication and other industrial and military applications. Another area of recent interest was the rupture energy of pendular rings, with application to the attachment strength of thin films in microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) devices.

In the October 1 1974 notes of the fluids group research log book is an entry; “Professor DeBoer introduced the possibility of using hydrogen as a fuel for internal combustion engines; advantages no CO, low NOX etc. but there is the problem of flashback”. As former Sibley School Director Al George has said, “Tob’s research was way ahead of its time”.

At various times, Tob taught courses in thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, combustion, and mathematics, with a particular fondness for teaching undergraduate thermodynamics. He was involved with student projects such as designing the world’s fastest bicycle with colleague Al George in a Cornell project to break the human powered vehicles land speed record. Tob was a great mentor to new faculty. Professor Elizabeth Fisher who taught thermodynamics with him remembers; “Tob had a great appreciation for the fine points of thermodynamics. I think a lot of my love of teaching and of teaching this particular subject is due to Tob. I feel very fortunate to have had Tob as a colleague and I benefited from his warmth, his sense of humor, and his encouragement.”

Tob served as Associate Director of the Sibley School from 1982 to 1991. He was also the school’s “official or unofficial parliamentarian,” said colleague and emeritus professor John F. Booker. “He knew Robert’s Rules of Order inside and out, and we always turned to him for that,” Booker said. “Tob was totally honest, totally without guile.” As Associate Director, Tob also had the ability to convince reluctant faculty to teach large required courses. His colleagues valued his calm, sensible, and affable contributions to the department in many different ways.

Tob retired in 2000 and was an emeritus professor in the Sibley School following his retirement. In his retirement Tob taught freshman calculus thus completing the circle of his lifelong interest in mathematics.

For many years, Tob was a model for other faculty in balancing the
demanding tasks of scientific research with a healthy active life. His athletic exploits in cycling, running and skiing set a standard that many younger men would strive to emulate in the following decades. In 1978 Tob had set a national cycling record at the age of 48 by riding 448 miles in 24 hours. In sports Tob was very competitive. Besides being a national ranked cyclist, Tob was also a distance runner, Nordic skier and triathlete, and participated in orienteering. He was president of the Finger Lakes Cycling Club and founding president of the Cayuga Nordic Ski Club. He was treasurer of Ithaca’s Cascadilla Rowing Club.

Stuart Leigh Phoenix, professor in the Sibley School, remembered Tob: “He got me into cycling.” “We went every day for quite a while and went around the Cayuga Lake many times. He was a fierce competitor, and probably instilled a lot of that in me.” Outside of professional work and sports, Tob enjoyed reading and conversing in Dutch, English, French, and German and playing piano. Former Sibley Director Francis Moon has said of his colleague, “Tob was not only a model for the aging athlete, but he also encouraged me to study the history of technology. He had a great sense of humor and a hearty laugh.”

Tob remained in close contact with family in the Netherlands, including some fifteen first cousins, returning to visit nearly every summer for fifty years. He was predeceased by his sister Willemina. He is survived by his wife Joan, his son Maarten (Pittsburgh, PA), and daughters Claire (Hershey, PA) and Yvette (Ithaca), and five grandchildren, Cobus, Ilona, Willem, Rowan and Ayla.

*Francis Charles Moon, chair; Elizabeth Fisher and Albert George*
Herbert Deinert, Professor Emeritus in the Department of German Studies at Cornell University, died on August 4, 2010 at the age of 79. Deinert was born in the small town of Wiedenbrueck, Germany.

He was a noted scholar focusing on German literature and intellectual history since the time of Martin Luther. His early work centered on the topic of "Rilke and music", and later on the works of Goethe, Hesse, Kfka, Mann, Brecht and others. More recently he wrote on the influence of Protestantism on Germany directly after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Herbert studied at a Franciscan school, then at the nearby Evangelisches Stiftisches Gymnasium. Although studying at a protestant school, he continued to have a leadership role in the Catholic youth movement. He considered entering the priesthood, but decided that his calling lay elsewhere. He was drawn to literature and entered the University of Münster, supporting himself by working in a furniture factory one semester and studying the next. At the invitation of Father Philotae s Boehner, who was then director of the Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University, Herbert moved to Olean, NY. After teaching for a year at a Catholic high school in Buffalo and working nights at a steel mill, Herbert was offered a teaching assistantship at Yale University. There he continued his study of German literature, completing his Ph.D. four years later. Deinert met his fellow student and future wife Waltraut von der Emde at Yale University.

Deinert joined the faculty at the University of Georgia then at Duke University. In 1965 Dienert brought him and his family to Ithaca to begin his career at Cornell. During his Cornell career he chaired the Department of German Studies, was their Director of Undergraduate Studies and of Graduate Studies, and served in various positions, including President, of the American Association of Teachers of German, Central NY chapter. From 1960-68 he was director and professor of the Berlin branch of Classrooms Abroad, a Summer Study Abroad Program for US students. He was at the same time a panelist and consultant for The National Endowment for the Humanities. Even after his retirement from active teaching in 2004, he continued as coordinator of the Cornell Exchange Programs with German universities and the DAAD program, giving
Cornell students from diverse fields and backgrounds the opportunity to study in Germany on a fellowship.

Sharing his insights and his love of literature, music and art with his students - both formally through teaching, and informally through friendship and mentoring - was at the core of his academic life. Students remember him as someone who cared as much about the quality of their lives as about the quality of their education. Many kept in touch with him after graduation, and continued to turn to him as a mentor. To the delight of many he was also a gentle but humorous satirist of academic politics and everyday life. His parables, essays and commentaries often graced the pages of the Cornell Daily Sun and the Ithaca Journal.

Herbert is survived by his wife, Waltraut Deinert, his children, Erika Deinert, Mark Deinert and his partner Sara Sawyer, his two sisters in Germany, Marlies Hambrink and Ursula Deinert, his niece and nephew and their children.

Office of the Dean of Faculty - (Information gathered from Ithaca Journal Obituary)
Professor Emerita Marjorie M. Devine, of the Division of Nutritional Sciences died on January 19, 2017 in Dover-Foxcroft Maine. She was born on May 19, 1934 in East Machias, Maine and attended local schools and was a member of the last graduating class of the Foxcroft Academy. She graduated from the University of Maine at Orono in 1956 with a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education. Professor Devine taught Home Economics at East Windsor High School in Connecticut and Bangor High School in Bangor, Maine from 1958 to 1962. She returned to the University of Maine at Orono for a M.S. degree in Home Economics Education in 1962, and served as an Instructor there from 1962 to 1964. She received a Ph.D. degree in Nutrition at Cornell University in 1967, working on aspects of Vitamin C metabolism in guinea pigs. In that same year, she joined the faculty of the Department of Food and Nutrition of the New York State College of Home Economics as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 1973 and Professor in 1978. With the merger of the Department Human Nutrition and Food with the School of Nutrition in 1974, she became a faculty member in the Division of Nutritional Sciences.

Professor Devine was a dedicated teacher. She taught a popular introductory course in Nutrition, “The Ecology of Food and Nutrition” nearly every semester from 1967 until she retired in 1989. This course provided an introduction to human nutrition for students across the campus and had an enrollment of 200 to 300 students each term. She worked to make this large lecture course a more intimate experience for undergraduate students. Her former students from this course commented that she was a “fabulous mentor” and “a wonderful teacher.” Professor Devine was recognized for her teaching skills. She received a State University of New York Chancellors Award for Teaching in 1977. She was named a Danforth Associate in 1980, and received a Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Human Ecology and the Omicron Nu Honor Society in 1982. In 1987, she received a Presidential Scholar award and in 1989 a Gamma Sigma Delta Innovating Teaching Award.

When the Division of Nutritional Sciences was formed in 1974, Dr. Devine was named Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs, and later, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, a
position she held until her retirement in 1989. She created an ongoing program to work with faculty members to assist them in providing more effective advising for the large number of undergraduate students with majors in the Division. Professor Devine established a Learning Center in the Division to provide students an opportunity to access multimedia educational materials before students had access to personal computers. She also led a seminar course for training graduate students to be more effective teaching assistants in courses offered by the Division of Nutritional Sciences. Such training became part of all the Division’s graduate students’ educational experience.

In her academic career, Dr. Devine was advisor to several graduate students who continued her interest in vitamin C metabolism using guinea pigs as an experimental model.

Professor Devine was an active member of the Society for Nutrition Education (SNE), and its Division of Higher Education which she chaired in 1978. She represented SNE on the National Nutrition Consortium from 1978 to 1981, and chaired the Consortium in 1980-81. This was a consortium of nutrition-related professional societies that aimed to coordinate nutrition advice provided by its organizational members to the general public.

With Marsha Pimentel, she wrote Dimensions of Food: An Introductory Laboratory Manual (Harper and Row, 1975 and AVI Pub. Co., 1985). This text book was widely used across the US, including at Cornell, in introductory foods laboratory courses. It has been subsequently revised by a new author and is still in use today.

After she retired, along with her colleague and friend Jerry Rivers, she ran a Christmas tree farm near Ithaca for 10 years. She was also a member of the Catatonk Wood Carvers during that time. Marge was a skilled woodcarver of native birds and mammals of the northeastern region of the US. She later returned to her Maine roots where she lived for several years before her death.

Written by Christine Olson, David Levitsky and Malden Nesheim

Dr. James E. Dewey was born in Geneva, NY on January 15, 1917. He received his B.S. degree in Entomology from Cornell University, his M.S. from the University of Tennessee, and his Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology (Insect Toxicology).

In the spring of 1944 Dr. Dewey was appointed as an extension specialist in fruit insect control, with the rank of instructor. During this time he made numerous excellent contributions to the state fruit industry, establishing relationships and improving communication with federal and state agencies involved with pesticides.

In 1945, Dr. Dewey joined the faculty at Cornell becoming an Associate Professor in 1947 and a Full Professor in 1954. In the 1950s he conducted pioneering research on the use of Daphnia magna as an environmental biomarker and for use as a means of determining pesticide levels in water and on food crops. He served as director of the Pesticides Program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences from 1964-1973. His major duties, in addition to research, included teaching courses and supervising graduate students in insect toxicology. At that time he also taught a course in the biology, research and control of fruit insects. One specific graduate course in chemistry and toxicology of insecticides, in which he shared responsibility with the insecticide chemist, was regarded as the top course of its kind in the country. Later in his career, he devoted considerable effort to preparation of educational programs and manuals for the safe application and handling of pesticides in agriculture.
Over the course of his career, Dr. Dewey continued to offer his expertise to various state and federal committees that were formulating rules for the safe use of pesticides with emphasis on avoidance of residues in food and milk. His impact on the formation of state and federal pesticide legislation was significant. Dr. Dewey also served as the President of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America form 1980-1981. He was the recipient of numerous awards, including the New York State Agricultural Society Distinguished Service Citation (1975), the USDA Award for Superior Service in Cooperative Extension (presented by the Secretary of Agriculture at a ceremony in 1983), and the Northeast Agricultural Aviation Association Outstanding Service Award (1999). Dr. Dewey was elected an honorary member of the Entomological Society of America in 1984.

Dr. Dewey was predeceased by his wife of sixty-two years, Agnes. He is survived by his daughter Elizabeth of Dryden, New York.

Arthur A. Muka, Chairperson; Lisa E. Westcott, Jeffrey G. Scott
Dr. Michael Hugh Dickson, Professor of Horticultural Science, passed away on March 28th, 2018, in Geneva, New York. He was 85 years old.

Mike was born in London, England on April 2, 1932, the son of Dr. Hugh and Eranee Dickson and was from a long line of rose breeders. He spent his first three years of life in Egypt where his father was a plant scientist working on King Tutt's tomb. He grew up in turbulent times in England during World War II and graduated from Charterhouse School. In 1950, he left England to complete his B.S. degree at McGill University (MacDonald College) and then his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Plant Breeding at Michigan State University. He was a professor at Ontario Agricultural University in Guelph, Ontario for six years before moving to the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station (NYSAES) at Cornell University in Geneva, New York as a professor in 1964.

At Cornell, Mike established a world class breeding program in common beans and crucifers, resulting in many scientific papers, awards and mentoring of graduate students. He was the President of the Bean Improvement Cooperative (BIC) from 1977 to 1986, and
was an active member of the bean research community throughout his career. He received the Meritorious Service Award from the BIC in 1987, and was elected Fellow of the American Society for Horticultural Science before retiring in 1995.

Mike was widely respected and well known for doing cooperative, multi-disciplinary research leading to the development of disease and insect resistance in several crops, including common beans. His work included the development of beans with high levels of resistance to root rots and white mold, and heat and cold tolerance. His recurrent snap bean breeding lines with white mold resistance have been widely dispersed. Mike was also well known for developing new techniques to support breeding efforts including approaches to test for bean seed-coat shattering and the straw test to evaluate plants for white mold resistance in beans. The straw test method, published as a two-page BIC report in 1996, has more than 100 citations, and is still used worldwide.

In addition to his work with beans, he developed 'persistent white' cauliflower that allows curds to remain white in direct sunlight without self-wrapping leaves or being tied. He also developed and advanced the orange cauliflower. He developed cabbage breeding lines with glossy leaves which reduce damage from the diamondback moth, selected materials resistant to soft rot with Dr. Jianping Ren and developed broccoli with tolerance to high temperatures. Among his most influential efforts was the development of cabbage with resistance to black rot, the world's most damaging disease of Brassica vegetables. These materials have been utilized by seed companies worldwide and have made significant contributions to yield stability of cabbage and food security. Lisa Earle, brassica breeder and Cornell Professor Emeritus had this to say about Mike. “It was a pleasure to collaborate with Mike on our long-term field to lab to field Brassica project. He was a warm, generous, and thoughtful man, always good company, helpful to students, and with broad interests well beyond vegetable breeding.”

Mike mentored dozens of graduate students who have gone on to have very successful careers of their own. Molly Jahn, professor and
former Dean of the College of Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studied with Mike in the 1980’s. She recalled a life lesson Mike taught her after a particularly difficult week that found her unable to keep up with her work. He asked a simple question, “why didn’t you ask for help?” That simple question taught Molly that not only is plant breeding a team sport, but so is life. It was that kind of attentive, plain, pure kindness, insight, and wisdom that she remembers most fondly about him.

Susan Brown, Professor of Horticulture and apple breeder at Cornell AgriTech, remembers Mike “as a kind, meticulous, engaged plant breeder, yet one whose dry sense of humor could surprise you. Mike was among the first to welcome me into the department and he was sincerely interested in making sure I was off to a good start. He liked sharing stories of his daughters and past students’ achievements. He was proud of his role as a mentor and was very generous with his time. You could joke with Mike and he enjoyed the banter, even when it was at his expense. We miss Mike as a colleague, fellow breeder and friend.”

Current Horticulture chair Steve Reiners shared that Mike headed up the search committee that hired him and did everything he could to make sure he and his family felt at home. “He invited us to his home, his church, he and his wife Jean even found a babysitter for our children. That was just the kind of friend and colleague he was.”

Mike married his college sweetheart, Jean Hamilton, in 1958. They would have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August. Over the years they entertained many guests from around the world. In their retirement, he and Jean travelled the world, spending fifteen winters in their Tucson, Arizona home and visiting with their children and families. Mike stopped by the W1150 Regional Project meeting held in Tucson in 2011 and received a standing ovation from the participants which attested to the respect for him by the bean community. Mike had many hobbies including gardening, sailing, skiing, reading and painting in oil and watercolors. He was a long-term member of the Presbyterian Church in Geneva, a former board member of the Geneva Public Library, Commodore of the Seneca Yacht Club and a member of several other Geneva
organizations. He is survived by his beloved wife Jean; his daughters Nancy (David Korn), Jane (Rob Purser) and Roslyn (Paula Black); and his grandchildren Mario, and Isabel Purser, Blake and Drew Korn.

*Written by Phillip D. Griffiths (chair), Molly Jahn and Stephen Reiners*
Alan Dobson, Professor Emeritus of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine, died on 21st February, 2017. He was born on December 20th 1928 in Bethnal Green, London, England and educated at Westcliff High School for boys in Essex. During the war he was evacuated with the rest of his school to Belper in Derbyshire. In 1947, after serving as a wireless fitter and instructor in the Royal Air Force, he was granted a scholarship to study Natural Sciences at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University. During this time he often cycled the 70 miles to his parent’s home in Southend.

Completion of his Ph.D. in biochemistry at Aberdeen University in Scotland in 1956 led to employment in the nearby Rowett Research Institute as a senior scientific officer specializing in ruminant
nutrition. There Alan met the love of his life, Marjorie, a Scottish microbiologist. They were happily married for 59 years until Marjorie’s death in 2014.

In 1964 Alan joined the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University, in what was then known as the Department of Physiology. He was at the forefront in the use of computers for acquisition and analysis of physiological signals, and he enjoyed the rigor of programming in various digital languages. He studied how sheep and cattle absorb nutrients and, in the process, he became interested in regulation of blood flow. In turn, this led him to develop, validate, and refine new methods for measuring blood flow. Amongst those methods was an ultrasonic flow meter that he invented along with Cor Drost. In 1984, this resulted in the creation of, Transonic Systems, Inc., which is an international company based in Ithaca that uses ultrasound-based technology in scientific and medical devices. Alan thrived in his role as founding director of this company and served on its board of directors until a few years before his death.

Alan’s academic career was characterized by careful experimental designs, enthusiasm for innovation, and abhorrence of wooly scientific thinking. He was a dogged advocate of academic freedom and the importance of the university in society. He had a seemingly endless supply of patience for students and junior colleagues, and he was a great model for aspiring scholars. In 1982 Alan was awarded the distinction of a Doctor of Science degree by his alma mater, Cambridge University, and in 1990 his research was recognized by his being made a Quatercentenary Research Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

Alan and Marjorie’s home in Etna often hosted gatherings of friends and family. He particularly enjoyed bonfires in the meadow behind the house. His animated reading of the Wind in the Willows and Pooh Bear entranced many a visiting child. Alan played different recorders and enjoying making music with a group of friends; such events usually ended in tea or beer, homemade bread, cheese and chutney. Alan was a craftsman who designed and built early wind and string instruments, including a racket, cornettos, a clavichord and finally a bass viol with matching bows. He enjoyed looking at...
art; it was fun to do this with him and to observe his reaction to pieces and listen to his perspective. He read widely enjoying Jane Austin, Trollope, Boswell, detective novels and science.

He retired from Cornell in 1995, though he continued to work and published many papers as an emeritus professor. In 2008 both he and Marjorie went to a care home in Ithaca enabling him to faithfully care for her as her dementia progressed. He is survived by four children: Ian, Janet, Graham and Barry and nine grandchildren.

Written by Robin Gleed (Chair), Janet Clarke (nee Dobson), Cor Drost, Wayne Schwark and John Wootton
Norman Dondero was a scientist, teacher, artist and naturalist. He was born and grew up in Massachusetts. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts (B.S., 1941), the University of Connecticut (M.S., 1943), and Cornell University (Ph.D., 1952). From 1943 until 1946, he served in the United States Army. Part of that time was spent in the occupation of Japan. He made a great effort to learn Japanese and developed an interest in their art and culture. He maintained this interest throughout his life and particularly during his time at Kendal.

After the war, he returned to the University of Connecticut as an instructor in bacteriology. In 1948 he began graduate studies at Cornell, completing his Ph.D. in 1952. Upon receiving his degree, he was employed at Cornell as an Assistant Professor of Bacteriology in the Department of Dairy Industry. In 1954, he left Cornell to accept a position as Assistant Professor of Microbial Cytology at Rutgers University. He returned to Cornell in 1966 with the rank of Professor of Bacteriology in the Department of Dairy and Food Science. When the Department of Microbiology was created in 1977, he became a member of that Department. He was granted the status of Professor Emeritus upon his retirement on January 31, 1984.

Norman was a pioneer in the study of aquatic microbiology, particularly in the areas of wastewater treatment and water pollution microbiology. While at Rutgers he was the lead scientist in the effort to clean up the Raritan River. He maintained that research interest and applied those same techniques when he returned to Cornell with his classical studies of Taughannock Creek and the other tributaries to Cayuga Lake. He was a teacher and scholar with deep interests in the basic science of microbiology, particularly the natural history and diversity of microbes that contribute to wastewater treatment. He was best known for his work on the *Sphaerotilus*/*Leptothrix* group of bacteria involved in activated sludge bulking. He was also well appreciated by professional colleagues outside of his immediate area of research. In particular,
he was recognized for organizing a cross-disciplinary research conference in 1963, a seminal event that stimulated collaborations between environmental engineers and microologists in the emerging field of environmental microbiology. Perhaps his most memorable trait was an unquenchable sense of scientific curiosity, tempered by skeptical thinking, which endured until the very end of his life.

Norm loved to fish. He made many trips to Ontario and Quebec where he would be out at dawn in his genuine birch bark canoe, usually with his limit of fish. He was also an avid cross-country skier and a superlative cook – his beef with bourbon was to die for!

Norman was a devoted husband to Wilma Irene Mehlenbacker for 59 years, until she predeceased him in 2011. Together they participated often in Elder Hostel, traveling throughout the world. They were known for their support of The Finger Lakes Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and other environmental conservation groups. They both were residents of Kendal at Ithaca in their final years.

David K. Bandler, Chair; James C. White; William C. Ghiorse; with input from Stephen H. Zinder and Barbara S. Eaglesham
Esther Gordon Dotson, Professor Emerita of Art history died, after a long illness, a week after she and her family celebrated her 91st birthday. She was born in Westerly, Rhode Island, a granddaughter of the Rev. Adoniram Judson Gordon, the founder of the Gordon College in Wenham, Mass., and the daughter of the Rev. Arthur Hale Gordon, a Baptist minister who held pulpits in Atlanta, Buffalo, and Middlebury, Vermont. Her husband, Arch Dotson, a professor of government at Cornell, predeceased her in 2006. She is survived by her stepson, Bruce Dotson, a professor at the University of Virginia, his wife, Diane, their children and grandchildren, and nine nieces and nephews of the Gordon family.

Esther inherited her family’s commitment to good deeds and causes and was a founding member of the Loaves and Fishes Ministry, serving meals to the poor at St. John’s Episcopal Church; a long-time volunteer with the Southern Tier Episcopal Peace Fellowship and of Meals-on-Wheels; and one of the earliest drivers of the not-for-profit Gadabout Transportation Service, helping the elderly and disabled get to church and around Tompkins County. She actively supported challenged citizens, defended the rights of immigrant families, helped people to obtain affordable housing, and collected surplus food from stores for delivery to migrant workers.

Esther was an active member of St. John’s, and was one of the first women to serve on the Vestry. Her brothers and sister shared in her life of active Christian commitment as well. Esther’s brother John was a Presbyterian minister who, just after the Hungarian uprising of 1956, installed the erstwhile Hungarian minister of agriculture and his family on the Gordon family farm in New Hampshire. Esther’s brother David administered the U.S. effort to blockade commerce with the Nazis during World War II.
At the Dotsons’ farm on Danby Hill, where the whole department was invited for Christmas cheer and an opportunity to cut a Christmas tree, she sunbathed luxuriously in her solar-paneled, red barn, the first solo commission of her former student Richard Meier, Cornell ’56—now an internationally known architect, and designer of Cornell’s Weill Hall, the new Life Sciences Technology Building—preferring it to the old farmhouse on the property which was rented out. The barn accommodated her needs as an art historian, giving her a grand second-floor studio with a northern exposure and a twenty-foot ceiling, with a bookcase covering one whole twenty-foot wall.

Both Dotsons were interested in alternative energy and land preservation, working with the Finger Lakes Land Trust to protect large tracts of land, and helping to create a community park in Danby. They were staunch members of the “Updike Road Unimprovement Association,” a neighborhood alliance devoted to preserving their unpaved road in its unpaved condition.

Esther Dotson graduated summa cum laude (and junior Phi Beta Kappa) from Vassar College in 1939 and taught art history after graduation and during her graduate studies at New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts (IFA) back in the days when one could teach on the university level without a Ph.D. in hand. Survival was no easier then than now, however. When she was a graduate student at the IFA she subsisted on something she called the “wolf diet”—consisting of a large meatloaf that she sliced into seven pieces, one for each dinner of the week to come—though later, when she could afford it, she proved she was an accomplished French chef. She completed her Ph.D. in 1973 with a dissertation entitled “Shakespeare Illustrated” a study of English painting, book illustration, aesthetic theory, and stage practice, and, after stints at Ithaca College and Wells College, became the first woman appointed to a full-time professorship in the Department of the History of Art at Cornell, from which she retired in 1989.

At Cornell Professor Dotson was an inspiring teacher whose course History of Art 240, “Introduction to the Renaissance,” became one
of the most popular undergraduate courses at Cornell in the 1970s and the 1980s, although she was a tough grader. Her ultimatum to her full-house audience was always the same: “Look at the images I am showing you. Think about what I am saying. I will give you a handout with all the names spelled properly and the dates written down correctly.” She received the College Art Association’s Award for Distinguished Teaching of Art History in 1986. The citation read in part: “The many letters from former students...all emphasize one quality above all others, and that is the immense amount of personal care that she takes with every one of her students.... She is praised for articulate and carefully planned lectures, for her breadth of learning, for her demanding standards and for her sense of humor, but it is by the personal attention far beyond that expected of any faculty member that she has distinguished herself.” In her acceptance remarks, Professor Dotson said with characteristic grace, “If I have been a good teacher, it is because I have had good teachers.”

Esther happily contributed to team-taught courses as well as her own. For a number of years she co-taught the Renaissance Culture Course with Carol Kaske (English), and continued to offer lectures on Michelangelo after her retirement, when Bill Kennedy (Comp. Lit.) took her place as course leader with Carol. Her lectures to “Art, Isotopes, and Analysis,” at the time cross-listed among five departments and three colleges, were among the highlights of the course. Several of the engineers and scientists enrolled in the course subsequently took Art History courses. When the Sage Collection of Casts of Greek and Roman Sculpture was still on display in Goldwin Smith Hall, she would take a newly-cleaned statue and surround it with photographs of all the Renaissance and later art that had been inspired by it. The exercise was of benefit to both the classicists and the Renaissance art historians in Goldwin Smith.

Esther’s commitment to her students and the time she gave to them, in person and in comments on their work, was remarkable. She was equally generous to graduate students, who were deeply devoted to her, and to her younger colleagues, not only offering hospitality, but arranging meals with some of the prominent scholars on campus. She was the engine behind the appointment of the distinguished
British art historian Michael Baxandall as A.D. White Professor at Large. She also served as Director of Undergraduate Studies in the History of Art Department.

Esther Dotson’s extensive, two-part article, “An Augustinian Interpretation of Michelangelo’s Sistine Ceiling,” published in the *Art Bulletin* in 1979, argued that the theologian Egidio da Viterbo was the author of the program of narrative scenes. Presenting aspects of the ceiling in relationship with Egidio’s writings along with the pervasive influence of those of St. Augustine, particularly *The City of God*, she revealed a profound knowledge of the religious and philosophical ideas current in the papal court. The question behind this essay and its mixed critical response is how much theological significance to give to details of the narrative scenes and what kind of theological messages were being promulgated in the papal court of the early sixteenth century. Dotson’s study has been taken seriously by both critics and defenders and is still-over 30 years later-considered canonical for its valuable and original observations.

At the time of the Sistine ceiling’s restoration Professor Dotson served as a consultant to the project and in recognition of her scholarly contribution was received at the Vatican by Pope John Paul II. She was also editor-in-chief of the journal *Marsyas*, and she published articles in *Collier’s Encyclopedia of Art*.

In her article “Shapes of Earth and Time in European Gardens,” published in an issue of the *Art Journal* devoted to earth works in 1982, Esther understood Renaissance gardens first of all as earth shaping. In a strikingly original analysis of the Sacro Bosco, or Sacred Grove, at Bomarzo near Viterbo, the creation of the aristocrat Vicino Orsini, she pointed out fallen and semi-ruined architectural elements that suggest a process of creation and destruction that was purely fictitious. She related these both conceptually and thematically to a very popular forged account of an Etruscan golden age first published in 1498 by Nanni di Viterbo.

In addition to all these serious matters, Esther set some sort of record at Cornell for locking herself out of her office, to the point where one of us was given a master key by the building manager.
with which to let her back in. Her many one-liners, among them “O Salome, please, not in the fridge!” are not the sort of thing one finds in a scholarly publication, but were recalled by many former students and colleagues at the time of her memorial service at St. John’s last winter.

Esther was preoccupied over many years with the 18th-century Austrian architect Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach. Her research has come to fruition in a posthumous book, written in collaboration with her former student, photographer Mark Ashton, which will be published by Yale University Press in late 2010 or early 2011. On hearing of the positive reviewers’ reports and its acceptance by the press last fall, she said that at last she could rest.

Service and scholarship were the traditions in which Esther Dotson grew up and in which she lived her life. She lived greatly. She loved the world deeply, loved those around her deeply, and gave her utmost to her work, to her family, students and colleagues, and to her community.

Peter Ian Kuniholm, Chairperson; Claudia Lazzaro; Carol V. Kaske
Many thanks to Esther’s nephew, John Hellegers, some of whose family information and prose we have used, with his kind permission, for this memorial statement.
Dr. William J. Dress, 93, died on December 15, 2011, at Kendal at Ithaca. Bill was an emeritus professor in the L. H. Bailey Hortorium, having retired in 1982 after 30 years on the job. Bill was born in Buffalo, New York, and received his B.A. in classics from the University of Buffalo in 1939. As with many of his generation, his academic progress was interrupted by WWII. He served in the U.S. Air Corps from 1942-1945 and was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant. In 1946, he resumed his academic career and entered Cornell as a graduate student in 1947. In 1953 he completed his Ph.D. in Botany. His thesis was a taxonomic account of Chrysopsis, a North American group of golden asters. In 1953, he began working in the L.H. Bailey Hortorium as an assistant professor.

Bill is best known for his work on Hortus Third, an authoritative source on cultivated plants published in 1976. This 1300-page encyclopedia has remained a standard reference for the identification and description of plants in cultivation. Bill also edited two journals produced by the Bailey Hortorium: Baileya, a journal of horticultural taxonomy, and Gentes Herbarum, in which longer taxonomic works were published. Dr. Dress also published numerous scientific papers about cultivated plants, many of them in the Asteraceae or sunflower family. He collected plants throughout the U.S. while conducting his research and contributed thousands of high-quality specimens to Cornell’s herbarium.

Bill also capitalized on his classics education and became our expert in botanical Latin and the rules of nomenclature. Until 2012, every new species had to have a description written in Latin and everyone relied on Bill to ensure that their Latin descriptions were accurate. He was also adept at interpreting the often labyrinthine code of botanical nomenclature and could be counted on to clean up any difficult nomenclatural problems. Dr. Dress taught three courses during his years at Cornell: the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants, Botanical Latin, and Botanical Nomenclature. He was a beloved teacher and mentor to many students and young assistant professors. Bill has been honored in having three plants named after him: Dressianthus bicarpellata, a fossil flower, Chrysopsis linearifolia ssp. dressii or Dress’ golden aster, and the cultivar Hosta 'Bill Dress’s Blue'.

William J. Dress
June 9, 1918 – December 15, 2011
Bill was a generous spirit and gave freely of his time and his money. In retirement, he became a driver, then director, of FISH (Friends in Service Helping), an organization that transports the elderly and disabled to medical services. Bill was an avid gardener and had bought 10 acres of pristine woodland on Culver Road on Ithaca’s west side. He intended to build a home there but gave up the plan when he discovered how thin and inhospitable the soil was for gardening. In 2006, he arranged for the property to be handed over to the Town of Ithaca as a forest preserve, now known as Dress Woods. Bill collected pre-Columbian pottery, especially sculpture with cultivated plant themes, and he donated many of his objects to Cornell’s Johnson Museum. He was an active participant in the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society, the North American Rock Garden Society, the local orchid society, and Friends of the Library. Although his taxonomic work is his academic legacy, those of us who knew him will remember Bill for his gentle humor, his integrity, and his willingness to work for the greater good.

Dr. Dress was the brother of the late Lucille Condon, Emilie Kinsella and Annette Caughel and is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Melissa Luckow, Chairperson
Eugene Dynkin, the A.R. Bullis Professor of Mathematics Emeritus at Cornell University, died November 14, 2014, in Ithaca, NY. He was 90. He is survived by his wife, Irene; a daughter, Olga Barel; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Evgenii Borisovich Dynkin was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) in 1924. When he was 11 his family was exiled to Kazakhstan and, two years later, his father disappeared in the gulag. On accepting the AMS Leroy P. Steele Prize, Professor Dynkin said it was almost a miracle he was accepted at Moscow University at the age of 16 to study mathematics. There, he attended the seminars of I. Gel’fand and A. Kolmogorov.

Early in his career, Professor Dynkin made outstanding contributions to Lie theory and introduced the diagrams now known as Dynkin or Coxeter–Dynkin diagrams. This work found applications in the study of elementary particle physics. He also discovered the explicit formula for the universal coefficients of the Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff series describing the logarithm of the product of two exponentials. He kept a keen interest in Lie theory throughout his career, which he described as “Seventy Years in Mathematics.” Several of his Moscow former students became worldwide leaders in Lie theory and Algebra.

Professor Dynkin made even more outstanding contributions to Probability Theory where he played a major role in the development of the theory of Markov Processes. His books, Foundations of the theory of Markov processes (1959) and Markov processes (1963), became highly influential. Among several important conceptual breakthroughs, Professor Dynkin can be credited with the idea of looking at a Markov process as a single stochastic process under a collection of probability measures corresponding to the possible initial values, with the introduction of the shift operators, and the rigorous formulation and proof of the strong Markov property.

At the 1962 International Congress of Mathematicians in Stockholm, Professor Dynkin’s plenary lecture “Markov Processes and Problems in Analysis” was read by Kolmogorov. On each of the
three occasions Professor Dynkin was invited to speak at the International Congress of Mathematicians (Stockholm, Nice and Vancouver), his lecture was delivered by a colleague as he was not authorized to leave the Soviet Union.

At the end of 1976, Professor Dynkin left the Soviet Union and immigrated to the United States via Israel. He found a new home in Ithaca, attracted by Cornell’s established tradition of excellence in Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics. He was proud to have become part of this long tradition and greatly contributed to it. At Cornell, he pursued his famous work on the relation between occupation times of a Markov process and Gaussian random fields, with striking applications to multiple points of Brownian motion, before turning to the development of the theory of superprocesses, a class of measure-valued Markov processes which gives probabilistic solutions to certain nonlinear partial differential equations. He remained active in mathematical research until his death. For almost forty years, he was a towering presence in the department of mathematics.

Professor Dynkin was a courageous, organized and determined human being who dedicated most of his life to the study of mathematics and to the mathematical community. Many of his ideas and contributions were foundational in nature and have gained a permanent place in mathematics, influencing the work of many others. The Dynkin Collection of mathematics interviews (available at http://dynkincollection.library.cornell.edu/) contains interviews which were recorded over the span of more than fifty years. He worked tirelessly to make sure this remarkable collection becomes available to all via the World Wide Web. Most important to him was his role as a mentor and supporter of young talents. Indeed, Professor Dynkin has over 500 mathematical descendants. Through his outstanding lecturing and teaching, he touched and transformed the life of many an apprentice mathematician.

Professor Dynkin’s contributions were recognized by numerous distinctions. He received the Prize of the Moscow Mathematical Society in 1951 and the Leroy P. Steele Prize for lifetime achievement from the American Mathematical Society in 1993. He was a fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, of the American Mathematical Society and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States.

Laurent Saloff-Coste, chair; Clifford Earle, Anil Nerode