In Memory

William B. Jackson

1926–2010

Dr. William B. Jackson of Chicago, Illinois, passed away July 15, 2010. He was a scientist, teacher, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. Over the years, he served as an advisor and mentor to many people who found their way to his classes or offices at Bowling Green State University (BGSU).

William B. Jackson

He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 10, 1926, and spent many hours collecting insects and watching birds, becoming president of his high school nature club and an Eagle Scout. He earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin, and his Sc.D. in vertebrate ecology from Johns Hopkins University, where he was involved in David E. Davis's groundbreaking research on the ecology of urban rats. He served several years in the U. S. Navy and as an commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service. He then spent 2 years in Micronesia with his wife Shirley studying rodent population ecology for the National Research Council. This started an international career leading to his work on all continents except Antarctica and on many islands, including Bikini and Enewetak atolls, where he studied the ecological effects of nuclear testing.

Returning from Micronesia in 1957, Bill settled at BGSU, where he served variously as professor of biology, assistant dean of Liberal Arts, and founding director of the Environmental Studies Center. He trained more than 100 graduate students, including 60 international students, in applied ecology. Many of his students conducted research at the National Wildlife Research Center in Colorado, and many of these went on to hold important positions in industry and government in several countries. Before his retirement in 1985, he was named Distinguished University Professor of Biological Sciences.

Recognized as a world expert in rodent and bird control, Bill was an active consultant, assisting the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, City of Boston's Central Artery ("Big Dig") Project, both the United Nations World Health Organization and Food and Agriculture Organization, as well as many U.S. and international foundations and companies.

Over the course of his career he published more than 200 technical and popular papers and book chapters, and he lent his expertise to 60 Minutes, Discovery Channel, History Channel, National Geographic Society, *Time Magazine*, and others. He was past chairman of the American Society for Testing and Materials subcommittee on vertebrate pesticides. For 20 years, he served as the executive director of Pi Chi Omega, the national professional honorary society, supporting the science of pest control. In 1995, he was given the Lifetime Achievement Award for "superior efforts to enhance human–wildlife relationships" by the Berryman Institute at Utah State University.

Bill shared his love of nature and travel with his family, students, and friends. He will be missed very much. He is survived by his wife Shirley, his children Beth, Mark, and Craig and their spouses, and his grandchildren Kathleen and Elizabeth.

Donations in Bill's memory can be made to the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship Fund. For more information contact Vern Toblan at *verntoblan@verizon.net*. Condolences may be expressed at *<www.wbj.last-memories.com>*.

submitted by Michael W. Fall