REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
WILLIAM L. RUTHERFORD

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for William L. Rutherford, associate professor emeritus, curriculum and instruction, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAM
WILLIAM L. RUTHERFORD

William L. Rutherford, associate professor emeritus of curriculum and instruction, died on March 26, 2002, at age 68. A memorial service was held at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Austin on March 30, 2002.

Bill was born on April 12, 1933, in San Antonio, Texas, to Carl and Pearl Rutherford. He completed high school there at Burbank High School and received a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree at Trinity University. He earned his doctoral degree from North Texas State University in elementary education and personnel administration in 1964. He did postgraduate work in reading education at the University of Chicago in 1967-68.

After service in the United State Army, he taught grades three through eight in Dallas while pursuing his doctorate. Upon receipt of the degree, Bill moved to Tarkio College in Missouri, where he served as a professor, dean of students, and chair of the education department during 1964–1967.

Dr. Rutherford arrived at The University of Texas at Austin in 1968 as an assistant professor. By 1972 his teaching, research, and service earned him the rank of associate professor and senior research associate at the Research and Development Center for Teacher Education at the University. A highly respected scholar, teacher, and advisor, he traveled extensively and served in many roles including graduate advisor for reading programs and assistant chairperson of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. He served as the director of the Education Placement Service from 1988 to 1993, where he initiated many positive programs and relationships between the University and the public school systems.

After retirement from the University in 1998, Bill was actively sought as a consultant by many, including the San Antonio ISD and the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, for his highly regarded research skills.

Unbeknownst to most people was Bill’s work with the community, including his church and the Children’s Hospital of Austin, where he served as a volunteer for countless hours after his retirement. He was the personification of the term “giving back.” Testimony at his memorial revealed the depth of his involvement in helping others.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marilyn Rutherford; brother Carl Rutherford; children, Kristina Webb, Kyle Rutherford, and Keith Rutherford; and grandchildren, Leah, Sean, Megan, Summer, and April.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professor Frank J. Guszak (chair), Associate Professor Elaine D. Fowler, and Professor James V. Hoffman.

Distributed to the dean of the College of Education, the executive vice president and provost, and the president on October 28, 2002. Copies are available on request from the Office of the General Faculty, FAC 22, F9500. This resolution is posted under "Memorials" at: http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/.