In Memoriam

S. Elwood (Woody) Bohn, 1927–2013

Elwood Bohn passed away at his home in Green Valley, Arizona, on April 16, 2013. He was born on March 11, 1927, and grew up in North Dakota. During his senior year at Bismarck High School, Woody earned all-state honors in basketball, and he went on to excel in that sport at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. He became the first Concordia basketball player to score over 1000 points, and he was inducted into Concordia’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 1997.

After graduating from Concordia in 1949, with degrees in mathematics and economics, Elwood earned a Master’s degree in mathematics and statistics at the University of Nebraska in 1951 and a Ph.D. from that institution in 1961. In between earning those degrees he taught at the University of Minnesota, Concordia College, and Wartburg College. Elwood came to Ohio in 1961 as a faculty member at Bowling Green State University. He moved to Miami University three years later where he served as Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for 15 years. Upon his retirement in 1992 the Bohn Lecture Series, part of the annual Miami University Mathematics and Statistics Conferences, were named in his honor.

Professor Bohn served as Chairman of the MAA Ohio Section in 1971–72 and as the Section Governor from 1973 to 1976. As Chairman he worked to revitalize the standing committees CONCUR and CONTTAC (now known as CONTEAL) and update the Section’s bylaws. He also worked for the National Science Foundation and the Ford Foundation. Elwood Bohn was an unwavering supporter of the mathematical sciences throughout his long and distinguished career as a teacher and administrator.

Submitted by David Kullman

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