

# IN MEMORIAM

## IRVINE RICHARDSON (1918-1977)

Professor Irvine Richardson, internationally-known African linguist, died Friday, December 9, 1977, at his home in Okemos. He was 59.

Professor Richardson had an international reputation for his studies on African languages, especially those in the Bantu group. He was a professor in the Department of Linguistics and Oriental and African Languages and in the African Studies Center at Michigan State University for thirteen years. He recently returned from leave in Tanzania where he was head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Linguistics at the University of Dar es Salaam from 1973-77.

He was the leading author on ChiBemba, a language spoken in Zambia and Tanzania. His pioneering study on tone in KiSukuma, a Tanzanian language, was a recognized hallmark in the field as one of the first scientific treatments of tone in an African language. From 1963 to 1974 he was editor of *The Journal of African Languages*. Professor Richardson also was an authority on Bantu language classification and was the joint author of the *Linguistic Survey of the Northern Bantu Borderland*. He was also an expert on Swahili, a language widely spoken in East Africa, on Mauritian Creole, and on Malagasy, the language of Madagascar. Most recently, he had been conducting research in the area of Indian Ocean studies.

He was a member of the London Philological Society, Linguistic Society of America, West African Linguistic Society, African Studies Association (USA), African Studies Association of the United Kingdom, Institute of Social Research, University of Zambia, and Life Member of the Senior Common Room of the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London.

Professor Richardson is survived by his wife, Marcelle, and their children, Derek and Chantal. He was born in Yorkshire, England in 1918. He was educated in Britain and held the Ph.D. degree in Bantu languages from the University of London.

The Center for African Studies/Michigan State University

## LEE C. PETRASEK (1926-1978)

It is with sorrow and a great sense of loss that we report the death of Lee Petrasek on Wednesday, March 15, after an extended illness. Funeral services were held March 20 in Klamath Falls, Oregon, with burial in Malin, Oregon.

Always helpful, cheerful, friendly, with a great zest for travel and new experiences, and a general joie de vivre, Lee will be greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues, not only in this Library, but also throughout his wider professional and personal circles.

A graduate of the University of Oregon, he received his M.S. degree in Librarianship at Columbia University, and joined the staff of the University of California Library, Berkeley, in February 1950, first as an assistant in the Processing Division, later promoted to the headship of that unit, finally becoming Assistant Head of the entire Acquisition Department as his experience and responsibilities increased and broadened.

Over the years Lee has had a major role in the operation and administration of the Acquisition Department, with special emphasis on the recent planning and implementation of an automated system. He has also been the Africana selection officer, performing a valuable function in developing the Library resources in this area, and assisting in related bibliographical and reference work. In this capacity he made at least five trips to Africa, visiting as many as twenty-six different countries, often acting as the Library's agent in buying material which might not otherwise have been available.

His loyal and dedicated service, the good will which he generated in the performance of his duties, and his friendly cooperative spirit will not be forgotten. In his memory a special book fund is being established for the purchase of material in his particular area of interest and concern—Africana books for the collections of the General Library. Those wishing to contribute to the fund can send checks to the Acquisition Department, Attention Marion Murdoch, General Library, U.C., Berkeley. Such checks should be made payable to the Regents of the University of California and should be accompanied by a note indicating that the gift is for the Lee C. Petrasek Memorial Book Fund.

Marion Murdoch  
General Library  
University of California, Berkeley