Honored Guests

Catherine & James Klein  
Niece & Husband

Robert H. Sprague  
Brother

James L. Sprague  
Brother

Robert E. Sprague  
Nephew

Richard Sprague  
Nephew

Carol Thiemann  
Niece

Patsy & Gary Barstow  
Niece & Husband

David & Martha Ross  
Nephew & Wife

Margie Ross  
Great Niece

Laura Ross  
Sister

Ruth Ross  
Niece

Kim Anderson  
Niece

Natalie Anderson  
Great Niece

Virginia Sprague  
Niece

Dick & Rose Tondra  
Friend & Wife

E. James & Lori Peake  
Friend & Wife

Shelley Magnani  
Friend, First Federal Iowa

Deanna Clayton  
Friend, First Federal Iowa

Dedication of Richard Sprague Undergraduate Math Majors Resource Room

May 5, 2006
Dick Sprague left high school to join the Marines in 1943. He rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant and returned to civilian life in 1946. After finishing high school, he got a B.S. in mathematics at Maryville College (Tenn.). He attended Ohio State University before transferring to the University of Kentucky for his M.A. in 1952. He taught at the New Mexico State University from 1958 to 1960 while he finished his Ph.D. He wrote his dissertation in complex variables at the University of Kentucky, finishing in June, 1961. He joined the Iowa State Mathematics Department in September, 1961 and taught here until his retirement in 1995. Dick died at age 80 in his sleep.

Dick was a friendly and outgoing person who enjoyed teaching and working with students. This is clear from his activities here, which included advising, working with education majors, our honors programs, our Putnam Exam team (this is a national undergraduate competition in mathematics) and our undergraduate mathematics club, Pi Mu Epsilon. After retirement he still enjoyed visiting his many friends in the Mathematics Department on a regular basis, who will miss him.