

## Colleagues, family remember a statistical giant

Jeff Charis-Carlson, [jcharisc@press-citizen.com](mailto:jcharisc@press-citizen.com) 3:24 p.m. CST December 24, 2014



(Photo: Press-Citizen file photo)

Family, friends and colleagues are remembering Bob Hogg as a committed member of Trinity Episcopal Church, as a past leader of Iowa City Rotary, as an inspiring teacher and as an academic giant in the field of statistics.

"He definitely is one of the most important people in my life," said UI education professor emeritus H.D. Hoover. "Bob Hogg was truly one of the greatest teachers I've ever seen, let alone be lucky enough to be a student under."

Hoover, who had his first class with Hogg in the fall of 1964, said the enthusiasm Hogg brought to the teaching of statistics was infectious among Hoover's cohort and among the generations of students they went on to teach over the next half century.

"The irony is that, in the College of Education, where I ended up, we have all these lists of do and don'ts that you're supposed to keep in mind when teaching," Hoover said. "Bob probably violated about 90 percent of the things you're told not to do and was just fabulous as a teacher anyway."

Robert V. Hogg, who retired from UI and moved away from Iowa City in the early 2000s, died unexpectedly, after a short illness, about 8 p.m. Tuesday in his home in Highlands Ranch, Colo. He was 90.

"He'll be remembered for his contributions to statistics, but he'll also be remembered for his love of the University of Iowa," said son Allen Hogg, of Downers Grove, Ill. "And I think the city of Iowa City was just a greater place with my father around."



In this 2011 photo, University of Iowa professor emeritus Bob Hogg sits front row center among the faculty of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science that he helped found nearly 50 years ago. (Photo: Special to the Press-Citizen)

Hoover said next year's 50th anniversary of UI Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science — which Bob Hogg helped establish back in 1965 — will be "a bittersweet one."

"Bob would've been the star at the anniversary," Hoover said.

Allen Hogg also recalled how much his father loved the Christmas season.

"He was known to wear a Santa suit when teaching," he said. "And he would wear it walking around the campus and visit the deans and hand out candy canes."

Allen Hogg said the family has not had time to make any plans for memorial services, but he expects events will be held in both Colorado and Iowa City sometime in January.

In addition to Allen Hogg, Bob Hogg is survived by his wife of 20 years, Anne Hogg; his children, Mary Hogg, of Moline, Ill., Barbara Hogg Chrabaszcz, of Kenilworth, Ill., and state Sen. Rob Hogg, of Cedar Rapids; and eight grandchildren. His first wife, Carolyn Ladd Hogg, passed away in 1990.