

Jim Anderson Dies

James F. Anderson, Emeritus Associate Professor of Pomology, passed away on February 8, 1997. Professor Anderson was born in Morgantown, West Virginia, and received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of West Virginia. He served in the military during World War II and participated in the Battle of the Bulge.

Jim joined the faculty of the Pomology Department of Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1948 and retired from the Department of Plant & Soil Sciences of the University of Massachusetts in 1988. For many years Jim was involved in evaluation of new fruit cultivars, and he was expert at identifying fruit cultivars by their vegetative characteristics. However, his primary responsibility during these years was teaching, and he was honored by selection for a number of Outstanding Teacher Awards by the Stockbridge School students.

In an interview at the time of his retirement, Jim said, "You can't really learn

about trees from books. You have to get out there with the trees." Many alums will remember their orchard pruning experiences with Jim in the dead of winter, because that is when the pruning is done. "But the students were all good about it; they never ambushed me," Jim said. "They'd know that I'd be out there in the cold with them."

Jim leaves his wife, Edna (18 Wildwood Lane, Amherst, MA 01002). He also leaves his former colleagues, who are saddened by the loss of a true gentleman and friend, and by generations of alums who learned much more from him than was written in books.

In memory of Professor Anderson's love of teaching, a memorial scholarship fund for students in Plant & Soil Sciences is being established. Anyone wishing to assist in this memorial to Jim may send a contribution to the Plant & Soil Sciences Scholarship Fund, c/o William J. Bramlage, French Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003.

