MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
William L. (Bill) Haeberle
(1922 –2017)

William L. "Bill" Haeberle, Emeritus Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business, died at his Bloomington home on Oct. 26, 2017, at the age of ninety-five. Dr. Haeberle taught at the Kelley School of Business from 1946 until his retirement in 1984, and he remained active as an emeritus faculty member into the next decade. He had a career spanning six decades.

Born on May 19, 1922, in Maywood, Indiana, above his grandfather’s grocery store and butcher shop, Dr. Haeberle graduated from Indiana University in 1943 with a BS in Business. After serving in the Army during World War II in the Pacific Operations, where he was promoted to Captain and received a Bronze Star, he joined the faculty of the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University in 1946, was awarded an MS in Business in 1947, and a Doctorate in Business Administration in 1952.

Dr. Haeberle first taught “Principles of Selling and Sales Management,” but in 1958 he created and began teaching in one of the nation’s first collegiate entrepreneurship programs. Several years later, he initiated internship programs in private businesses. From 1958 to 1984, Dr. Haeberle directed the Indiana Executive Program, a precursor to the current Kelley Executive Education program. He was the Director of the International Consortium for University Executive Education from 1972-1993. He became Emeritus Professor of Management in 1985, and while continuing to teach, he was also involved in the start-up of over four dozen private companies. Additionally, he was a professional corporate director for more than five dozen private and public companies, and he was a consultant to numerous top executives on how to introduce an entrepreneurial spirit into their organizational culture.

In 1989, Dr. Haeberle helped to establish what today is known as the Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, which supports faculty research and educational offerings in the discipline at the Kelley School and across the entire Indiana University campus. He served as a senior fellow at the center and remained an active advisor and mentor to numerous students. Because Dr. Haeberle left such an enduring impact not only on the students at the Kelley School, but also on Indiana’s entrepreneurial culture, the Johnson Center created The William L. Haeberle Entrepreneurial Legacy Award as a tribute to his legacy. This award is presented to select Hoosiers who have created some of the very best entrepreneurial firms in the state. In addition, the William L. Haeberle Professorship in Entrepreneurship was established at the Kelley School to honor his legacy.

Even after retiring from full-time teaching in 1992, Dr. Haeberle developed the second-known graduate-level course in turnaround management, for students who were interested in consulting ailing firms on how to return to profitability and leadership. He taught his last class in 2004. Over the years, he led generations of students and alumni through a variety of entrepreneurial activities ranging from automotive dealerships to oil well explorations to Wall Street, and from forming and operating limited partnerships that financed aviation and transportation companies to providing venture capital and consultation for insurance companies.

In 1983, then-Indiana Governor Robert Orr appointed Dr. Haeberle to the board of the Indiana Institute for New Business Ventures. Dr. Haeberle also guided several national organizations, including the National Entrepreneurship Foundation, which he founded in 1981 and led for many years. In 1983,
he was named vice president of the National Association of Corporate Directors, which helped individual board members evaluate and improve their knowledge and skills by providing educational and informational programs on board-related issues. He also was director of the International Consortium for University Executive Education from 1972 to 1993. In 1989 he received the Indiana Heartland Entrepreneur of the Year from the Arthur Young and Inc. magazine and was inducted into the Institute of American Entrepreneurs. He is listed in *Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who in the World*, and was named a Sagamore of the Wabash. In 2007 he completed his autobiography “I Never Worked a Day in My Life.” Toward the end of his life, he commented, “I’ve had a great life: I may not have done it all, but many times enough to feel fulfilled.” He believed he had met his life goals.

Dr. Haeberle was preceded in death by his wife of fifty-five years, Yvonne, who passed away in 2002, and two infant children, Steven Carlton Haeberle and Ann Carlton Haeberle. He is survived by a daughter, Patricia Yvonne Haeberle Olsen of Potomac, Maryland; two sons, David Carlton Haeberle (wife Beth), who is a clinical professor of finance and the Peterson Faculty Fellow in Investment Banking at the Kelley School, and William Carlton Haeberle of Columbus, Indiana, an IU Trustee Lecturer of Business at Indiana University Purdue University-Columbus; and six grandchildren, a great-grandson, three sisters-in-law, four nephews and three nieces.

Dr. Bill Haeberle will be missed by his Kelley School and Indiana University colleagues. The legacy of his accomplishments for the School and University will live on, and we will forever be grateful for his many contributions. Be it resolved, therefore, that this statement be entered into the permanent minutes and archive of the Bloomington Faculty Council. A copy of this resolution will be sent to his son, David C. Haeberle.

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