Dr. Sandra Kay Burrus passed away under the loving care of IU Health Bloomington Hospice House on June 16, 2018. Kay was born to Lanham J. and Faye (Hellrung) Burrus in Litchfield, Illinois, on Dec. 19, 1937. Kay served Indiana University and the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, now School of Public Health, with distinction for over 39 years. She was an integral part of the exercise physiology faculty and taught an array of courses. Her career culminated with a 14-year appointment as Associate Dean for Academic Program Administration.

Prior to coming to Indiana University, Kay completed B.S. and M.S. degrees at Southern Illinois University in 1959 and 1962, respectively. She taught at Sterling High School in Sterling, Illinois, from 1959 to 1961 and served as an associate instructor in the Department of Physical Education for Women at Southern Illinois University from 1961 to 1962. In 1962, Kay came to Indiana University as an instructor and coach in the Department of Physical Education for Women, and later in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. In addition to teaching courses, she was a highly successful coach of the women's field hockey team from 1962 to 1976 and the women's basketball team from 1963 to 1967. During the summer months, from 1966 to 1979, she traveled to the Nevada Desert Research Institute to work as a visiting and consulting scientist with Dr. D. B. Dill (at the time, the world's renowned expert in exercise physiology) in the Laboratory of Environmental and Pathophysiology. In 1974, Kay Burrus received her Ph.D. in exercise physiology from the University of Michigan and she was an important part of the department’s exercise physiology faculty at Indiana University.

During her tenure in the Department of Physical Education, later renamed the Department of Kinesiology, Dr. Burrus made significant contributions to its teaching, service, and research missions and was instrumental in a period of rapid transformation in the department. Dr. Burrus regularly taught a variety of classes, including Introduction to Exercise Science, Physiology of Exercise, Corporate Fitness and Wellness, and History of Physical Education. She was active in a number of higher education professional organizations, most notably the Midwest Association for College and University Physical Education, where she held several elected positions culminating in the presidency from 1987 to 1990. Dr. Burrus’s research focused on stress, health, and included such topics as the physical fitness levels of women and the physical and cardiorespiratory characteristics of women intercollegiate basketball players. Additionally, she chaired and served on numerous doctoral dissertation committees in the Department of Kinesiology.

In 1987, Dr. Burrus accepted an appointment as the Associate Dean for academic program administration in the school, which she held until her retirement. During her more than fourteen years of service in this capacity, Dr. Burrus represented the school on numerous university and school committees. Her sensitivity and friendly accessibility to students, her uncanny attention to detail, and her quiet and thoughtful wisdom on matters of importance to the school made her a most valuable and respected administrator.

Kay is survived by her long-time, cherished friend Gayle Hart. Dr. Burrus dedicated her professional
life to the betterment of the Department of Kinesiology and the School of Public Health. For those who worked with Kay, her quiet leadership will be missed; but, the hope is that her positive attitude will remain woven in the fabric of the department.

This resolution will be presented in and become a part of the minutes of the Bloomington Faculty Council, and listing the names of family members and friends to whom copies of the resolution will be sent after its presentation in the Council.

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