MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
Edley Wainright “Wain” Martin Jr.
(1927-2018)

Edley Wainright “Wain” Martin Jr., professor emeritus of operations and decision technologies at the Kelley School of Business, died October 18, 2018 at Bell Trace Health and Living Center. He was 91 years old.

Edley Wainwright Martin Jr. was born April 29, 1927, in Texarkana, Texas to Edley Wainright Martin Sr. and Catherine (Smith) Martin., Texas. He earned his M.A. and a Ph.D. in mathematics at the Ohio State University, a bachelor’s in electrical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a bachelor’s in science from Hendrix College in Arkansas.

After an initial career at IBM, Wain joined the Kelley faculty as an associate professor in 1956 with the task of helping to move the business school forward into the realm of mathematical modeling and computing. Within five years, he was a full professor and later was the initial chairman of the departments of Quantitative Business Analysis, and Operations and Systems Management, which later became the Department of Operations and Decision Technologies. Much of the information systems management program we have today can be traced back to his efforts.

His expertise and leadership was recognized many times with key administrative roles during his career. He was appointed associate dean for academic affairs of the School of Business in the ‘60s. He also served as director of the Research Computing Center, and with his expertise in how information technology can help shape the operations of organizations, he served as special assistant to the president for computers and information systems from 1972-74. He later served as acting director of the Institute for Research on the Management of Information Systems, which he helped launch.

Because he was teaching in an emerging subject, he authored many of the textbooks for his classes, including Electronic Data Processing: An Introduction. He authored or co-authored several other books, including Mathematics for Decision Making, Computers and Information Systems: An Introduction, FORTRAN for Business Students: A Programmed Instruction Approach, and Managing Information Technology: What Managers Need to Know.

Martin served in the U.S. Naval Reserve 1944-46. He married Charlene Ruth Studor in 1950, and they had four children: Linda, Anne, Nancy, and Robert Martin.

After his retirement in 1991, Wain was very active in the community and with the IU Retirees Association. He was a founding member and president of the board of directors of New Leaf—New Life, a non-profit organization that supports residents during and after incarceration to help them re-enter society in a positive way and reduce recidivism. He received a “Be More Award” from the City of Bloomington Volunteer Network in 2016 for his work, which included establishing the Transition Support Center on South Walnut, a weekly Bingo night for prisoners with volunteers from St. Mark’s United Methodist Church, and an educational program that brings prisoners and IU students together for a common learning experience.

He also volunteered with Thriving Connections at the South Central Community Action Program, delivered Meals on Wheels, and volunteered for decades with the United Way. In 2018, he was
awarded United Way’s highest volunteer honor, the Mary Alice Gray Memorial Award for extraordinary volunteer service. He was an active member of St. Mark’s United Methodist Church as well as the Bloomington Rotary Club. He pursued a passion for researching and writing his own family history, as well as writing memoirs for many of his friends.

Wain was a world traveler an avid contract bridge player, a passionate sports fan (especially IU basketball), and was always eager to spend time with family.

As we remember Wain and his contributions to education and to the community, we should remember and aspire to his motto: “Never tire of doing good.” That was more than a slogan for him, as it reflected his view on the importance of service.

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