John Cambus, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Mass Communication, Passed Away January 20, 2017

From the family of John Cambus:

"John Cambus, professor emeritus of the Department of Mass Communication, passed away peacefully on January 20, 2017. He is survived by his wife Jane, and nieces and nephews in New York, New Jersey, Albany, and Pennsylvania.

John was born on October 27, 1924 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and grew up in Detroit, Michigan. He served in battle as an Army radio operator in New Guinea. He received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.d. degrees in Speech from Wayne University in Detroit from 1953 to 1959. While an undergraduate he served as a radio announcer for radio station WCAR. He was Program Director and station manager to WDET in Detroit. He was a member of the Speech Association of America and Co-founder of the California Speech Association.

John came to the California State University at Hayward in September, 1963. Immediately active on many committees, he was appointed Coordinator of Educational Television in 1966. He was Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Western Radio and Television Association and a performer in Reader’s Theater. He was co-director of the California Curriculum Correlating Council; in 1974 and again in 1984 the Council organized 10 day workshops for classroom teachers. In 1971 he was commissioned by the city of Hayward to do a 30 day study on the Cable Television franchise ordinance.

John served as Chair of the Department of Mass Communication, and was on the Academic Senate. He was generous with his time and talents giving presentations for many organizations. During graduation ceremonies he served as Grand Marshall and the announcer of graduates’ names. He retired from the University in 1992. He remained active in the California Speech and National Communication Associations.

He served as President of the Hellenic American Professional Society of California and as chair of the Modern Greek Studies Board that established the Nikos Kazantzakis Chair at San Francisco State University. After retiring, he was elected to the Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging, representing District 3, and was on the Legislative Committee. He served on the Advisory Board of the Other Lifelong Institute for Learning at CSU Eastbay in Concord. OLLI is a non-profit providing learning experiences for seniors.

Private interment was held in the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, California.

Anyone wishing to honor his life, please consider making a contribution to OLLI, 4700 Ignacio Valley Rd., Concord, CA 94521 or to Cancer Research."

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