



## **Bruce L. Anderson**

September 14, 1946 – June 26, 2017

Bruce L. Anderson was born in Chautauqua County, New York and grew up on a dairy farm near Falconer. After graduating from Falconer High School, Bruce attended Cornell University and received a B.S. degree. He attended the University of Uppsala in Sweden with support from a Fulbright scholarship. He received a M.S. degree from Purdue University and a Ph.D. from California, Berkeley. Professor Anderson joined the Cornell faculty in agricultural economics as an assistant professor in 1978 and was promoted to associate professor in 1984. He held a visiting professorship at the Institution of Economics and Statistics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden during the 1985-86 academic year. His teaching, research and extension efforts were in agribusiness management, management strategies, and cooperative enterprise before his retirement in 2005. Professor Anderson was subsequently accorded emeritus status.

Bruce taught a large financial management course for several years, along with an undergraduate course in cooperative management. More than 1,000 undergraduate students learned about cooperative management, finance, and marketing over the years that he taught the cooperatives course; the course curriculum included many direct interactions with cooperatives operating in New York State and Northeast U.S. In addition to his teaching responsibilities related to cooperative enterprise, he taught a number of business and finance courses including the capstone course for business major seniors in strategic management. In the 1990s, he developed a course on global agribusiness strategy that included an international class trip sponsored by Cargill. He advised hundreds of undergraduate students over the years and took an active interest in graduate student education. Bruce trained several graduate students that subsequently developed successful professional careers in academia or agribusiness management.

Bruce Anderson made a major contribution to Cornell efforts with distance learning. He was a major contributor to an innovative and widely acclaimed two-hour satellite program entitled “Cooperation Works”. This program centered on effective mechanisms to stimulate economic development and improve rural economic development across the Northeast region. The satellite broadcast was downlinked across New York State as well as by Extension offices in surrounding states.

Bruce served on the board of trustees of the American Institute of Cooperation and on the editorial board of the Journal of Agricultural Cooperation. Bruce was a longstanding member and had leadership positions in a multistate academic research committee on Improving the Management and Effectiveness of Cooperatively Owned Business Organizations.

Professor Anderson was a regular contributor to the department’s long-lived Cornell Economic Outlook Program. He co-authored a chapter on agricultural cooperatives in the department’s Economic Outlook report for many years.

Professor Anderson was presented with an award for Cooperative Education from the National Cooperative Month committee in 1992. The award recognizes an individual who has had a major impact on the cooperative education process.

Bruce was a member of the American Agricultural Economics Association and the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association.

Bruce is survived by his former spouse Gunilla, daughter Christina, son Phillip and two grandsons.

*Written by Nelson Bills, Brian Henehan and Todd Schmit*