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In Memoriam: Robert H. Chapman

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IN MEMORIAM Dr. Robert H. Chapman

Dr. Robert H. Chapman, Assistant Professor of Botany, Iowa State University, died February 3, 1984 in Ames, Iowa. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia and received a B.A. degree from Emory University in 1969. Following three years in the Army Security Agency, including 15 months as an interpreter in Viet Nam, he enrolled at the University of Georgia and received an M.S. (1974) and Ph.D. (1977) in Botany. He was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Rochester but left early to accept an appointment at Iowa State in fall, 1977.

His teaching responsibilities included general biology, biological evolution, and plant population biology. He became especially interested in evolution and, in addition to teaching in the formal evolution course, often spoke to student groups about evolution. He became a spokesman for biologists on the question of what is science and what is

not science in the field of evolutionary biology.

Dr. Chapman was known beyond the campus for his efforts to raise awareness of the impact of the evolution controversy on science. He wrote a chapter for a book on the subject and presented papers about it at meetings. He was a member of the Controversial Issues Panel of the Iowa Academy of Science which dealt with this matter.

His research interests were in evolutionary biology, specifically in the application of electrophoresis techniques to problems in plant population biology. He had published papers in this discipline. For a short period he was Associate Editor for Botany for the *Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science*.

Bob Chapman was an amiable and intelligent teacher and scientist. The early end to his career is an unfortunate loss to both Iowa State University and the state of Iowa.