

IN MEMORIAM—FREDERICK W. CASE, JR.

With deep sadness, we note the passing of one of our most eminent members, Fred Case on Jan. 12, 2011, at age 83 years.

Fred Case was a dedicated teacher, who inspired students to study plants. He taught biology and natural science at Arthur Hill High School in Saginaw, Michigan, and gained a number of honors, including Outstanding Biology Teacher in Michigan in 1971 and Outstanding Science teacher in 1987. He also started a number of students on botanical and horticultural careers. Besides being a teacher, Fred was active his entire life in conservation, serving on the Board of Trustees of the Nature Conservancy of Michigan, and was a long time member of the advisory committee for Michigan's Threatened and Endangered Species law, and a strong supporter of the Michigan Nature Association. In recognition of his teaching and outreach efforts, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists gave Fred the prestigious Peter Raven Award in 2003. This award is "to a plant systematist who has made exceptional efforts at outreach to non-scientists."

In the summers, in addition to working in his wonderful garden, Fred also loved seeing plants in nature, and spent as much time as he could studying orchids, trilliums, pitcher plants, alpiners, and anything else that interested him in the wild, including butterflies and moths, which were another great love. Fred was a great photographer and a superb speaker, much in demand internationally. His lectures were diverse but especially focused on wildflowers, trilliums, orchids, western American alpiners, woodland plants, and bog plants. They always generated enthusiasm, were filled with original information, and never too short. He was always willing to speak to the Michigan Botanical Club and spoke at several Spring Forays, always skillfully using two projectors.

We owe to Fred a number of highly regarded books all of which contain information relevant to Michigan Botany. His first and probably best known book was *Orchids of the Western Great Lake Region*, first published in 1964, with a revised edition in 1987. Many beginning botanists, starting out with an interest in orchids, like myself, learned field botany and plant hunting using this book. In 1978, we saw *Wildflowers of the Northeastern States*, in the *Wildflowers of the United States Color Slide Series* from the New York Botanical Gardens. The text was accompanied by 35 mm slides, and this is now somewhat of a collectors item. *Wildflowers of the Western Great Lakes Region* (1999), with James R. Wells and T. Lawrence Mellichamp, was a more complete and modern rendition. This is a beautiful book with numerous, high quality photos. Finally, his 1997 book *Trilliums*, co-authored with Roberta, was an instant classic. All his books included much horticultural as well as botanical information. He had been a research associate with the Cranbrook Institute of Science, The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, and the University of Michigan Herbarium. He also made significant contributions to the Michigan Flora project, especially with many hundreds of important herbarium specimens.

Fred, often with Roberta, wrote a number of scientific articles naming species and important variants in Orchids, Trilliums, and Pitcher Plants, including two Michigan Orchids *Listera xveltmanii* Case (Type locality: Alger Co.) *Platanthera xvossii* Case (Type Locality: Otsego Co.), The Pitcher Plants *Sarracenia xahlesii* Bell & Case, the federally (US) endangered Cane-brake Pitcher Plant, *S. alabamensis* Case & R. B. Case, *S. xgilpinii* Bell & Case, and *S. rosea* Naczi, Case, & R. B. Case, and *Trillium ovatum* f. *maculosum* Case & R. B. Case. Named in Fred's honor are *Spiranthes casei* Catling & Cruise, a native Orchid of the Great Lakes region east to Nova Scotia, and *Sarracenia xcasei* Mellich., a hybrid pitcher plant. Other notable scientific contributions were the treatments of *Trillium* and of *Sarracenia* (with T. Lawrence Mellichamp) in the Flora North America series.

Fred published a number of articles in the Michigan Botanist on Michigan and Great lakes Region botany, as listed below:

- Case, F. W. Jr., 1964. A Hybrid Twayblade and its Rarer Parent, *Listera auriculata*, in Northern Michigan. Michigan Bot. 3: 67–70.
- Case, F. W. Jr., 1965. Discovery of the Northern Twayblade, *Listera borealis*, in the Lake Superior Region of Ontario. Michigan Bot. 4: 118–121.
- Case, F. W. Jr., & W. Schwab. 1971. *Isotria medioloides*, the Smaller Whorled Pogonia, in Michigan. Michigan Bot. 10: 39–43.
- Well, J. R., F. W. Case, Jr. & T. L. Mellichamp. 1976. Perfecting Wildflower Photography. Michigan Bot. 15: 183–190.
- Wagner, W. H., E. G. Voss, J. H. Beaman, E. A. Bourdo, F. W. Case, J. A. Churchill, & P. W. Thompson. 1977. Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Vascular Plants in Michigan. Michigan Bot. 16: 99–122.
- Case, F. W. Jr., 1982. The Snow Trillium, *Trillium nivale*, in Michigan. Michigan Bot. 21: 39–44.
- Case, F. W. Jr., & P. M. Catling. 1983. The Genus *Spiranthes* in Michigan. Michigan Bot. 22: 79–92.
- Case, F. W. Jr., 1983. *Platanthera xvossii*, A New Natural Hybrid Orchid from Northern Lower Michigan. Michigan Bot. 22: 141–144.

In honor of his life-long contributions to the Michigan Botanical club, starting with being a founding student member of the Club in 1941, The Michigan Botanical Club gave Fred its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010.

So many Botanical Club members remember Fred for his mentoring and kindness to beginning botanists, his willingness to open his magnificent garden to tours and individual visitors, and his generosity with his knowledge of all things natural. We will miss him greatly.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, David B. and Sheri Leaman Case and three granddaughters. Friends planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider the Nature Conservancy of Alabama, Roberta Case-Pine Hill Reserve, the Michigan Nature Association, the Children's Zoo at Celebration Square, or the charity of their choice.