



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

Resolution in Memoriam
Norman E. Pellett
Professor Emeritus of Plant and Soil Science
1934-2023

Presented by Terence Bradshaw
Associate Professor
Department of Plant and Soil Science
February 26, 2024

The UVM Department of Plant and Soil Science is sad to report the passing on December 8, 2023 of a beloved colleague, mentor, and friend, Dr. Norman E. Pellett. Dr. Pellett was born in Atlantic, Iowa in 1934 and was raised on his family's fruit and vegetable farm, Pellett Gardens. After he received his B.S. in Horticulture from Iowa State College and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from University of Minnesota, he arrived at UVM in 1967 as Extension Ornamental Horticulturist and Assistant Professor. In this role, Dr. Pellett became a well-respected plantsman who was quickly known and respected among the nursery, landscape, and greenhouse industries of northern New England. In 1980 he shifted his focus to undergraduate teaching, teaching hundreds of students in his Plant Propagation, Woody Landscape Plants, Garden Flowers, Turf Grasses, and Home and Garden Horticulture courses. Dr. Pellett was affectionately known as 'Stormin' Norman' for the fast pace he took as he walked students through outdoor laboratories.

Throughout his career, Dr. Pellett maintained an active research program focused on cold hardiness of landscape plants. He served in leadership roles in the American Society for Horticultural Science and received the ASHS Alex Laurie Award in 1970 for the best research paper in Floriculture, Ornamental, and Landscape Horticulture, and he was awarded the UVM Joseph E. Carrigan Award in 1985 for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In 2016, was awarded the Sinclair Cup Award, which is the highest award presented to retired CALS and Extension faculty recognizing professional advancement in their field/discipline of expertise and achieved special recognition, awards and/or honors which reflect a noteworthy and exemplary career.

Dr. Pellett retired from UVM in 1996, and remained active in the community, authoring four books: *History of the University of Vermont Horticulture Research Center*, *The Gardener's Quiz Book*, *The Pellett Gardens Story*, and *The Life of Frank Chapman Pellett*, and co-authored *Landscape Plants for Vermont* with his successor, PSS Associate Professor Dr. Mark Starrett. He remained active with the Friends of the UVM Horticulture Farm and served on the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Committee and the Rutter Tree Fund Committee. He is remembered by many for his unbounding kindness, his deep knowledge of plants, and his dedication to improving landscapes for the benefit of all.

I MOVE that this resolution in memoriam be inscribed in the Minutes of the Faculty Senate and that copies be sent to his family.