



## **Robert J. Ames**

December 7, 1915 – October 26, 2009

Robert J. Ames, Professor Emeritus, Department of Communication died October 26, 2009 after a short illness, he was 94. Born on December 7, 1915 in DePeyster, New York, Bob graduated from Gouverneur High School and continued his education at Cornell's College of Agriculture where he received a degree in Agriculture Economics in 1938. From 1939-1950 Bob worked for the NYS Cooperative Extension service and then went on to become the Agricultural County Agent in Otsego County.

In 1950, he came to Cornell's College of Agriculture to head the County Information Services. He worked closely with College staff with extension responsibilities in preparing printed materials and news releases for use by county agents and the news media. In addition, he helped select materials featured in the "Cornell Recommends," a series of publications published annually by the College as a guide to agricultural production.

In 1957, he received the Award of Merit in Written Communications from Lambda Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity. He was also the recipient of the Empire Farmers degree from the Future Farmers of America.

Ames also was involved in agent training on the preparation and use of informational materials in their publications and was a contributor to a number of national and regional agricultural publications. Bob was cited for his efforts in coordinating and preparing educational material for the Green Acres Program, a five-year educational program to improve productivity of the land.

In recognition of his outstanding service to the extension field staff, he was cited by the New York State Association of Agricultural Agents in 1970.

Bob retired from Cornell's Department of Communication Arts in 1973 as Professor Emeritus. At that point Bob started a second career at Cornell working for the Athletic Department taking tickets at football and hockey events. He enjoyed working at hockey games, meeting the players, coaches, officials and their families. Bob was a life member of the Cornell Hockey Association, a life member of the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture and a member of the Masonic Lodge in DePeyster, New York.

Bob is survived by a daughter Connie Ames and her husband, Bengt Nestell, of Pottstown, PA, a son Thomas Ames and his wife Holly of Newton, PA, and three grandchildren. His wife of 56 years, Eva Ames predeceased him along with three siblings, George, Zaidee and Vivian.

*Office of the Dean  
of Faculty (Information gathered from Ithaca Journal Obituary and The Division of Rare &  
Manuscript*

*Collections, Cornell  
University Library)*