

Memorial Resolution

Vasant P. Bhapkar

The University of Kentucky and the Department of Statistics mourns the passing of Vasant P. Bhapkar who succumbed to complications arising from a heart attack, on July 23, 1999.

Vasant joined the newly formed Department of Statistics at UK as an Associate Professor in 1969 and became a Professor in 1973. Prior to that he taught for several years at the University of Poona, India. He held visiting appointments at the University of North Carolina, CSIRO, Sydney, (Australia) and the University of Michigan. After obtaining his M.Sc. degree in Statistics in 1953 from the University of Bombay, he earned his Ph.D. degree in Mathematical Statistics in 1959 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill at which he held a Fullbright Graduate Fellowship. Bhapkar delivered lectures at several conferences and universities and made significant contributions to the Department of Statistics at UK. He was respected not only by the students but also by his colleagues. He was an excellent and a dedicated teacher. For example, he taught his classes on the day he was having a heart attack. He has produced seven (7) Ph.D. students and published 57 papers. Vasant has made significant contributions to nonparametric statistics and was an expert on categorical data analysis. He was a member of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the Indian Statistical Association, and the American Association of University Professors, and was a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He also obtained several research grants. Bhapkar was the Interim Chair of the Department of Statistics at UK during July 1979-March 1981. He was a member of the University Senate and served as a member of the Area Committee for Physical Sciences.

Vasant Bhapkar is survived by his wife Suhasini, one son, two daughters, and two grandchildren.