Dr. A. Joel Kaplovsky
1918 - 2013

Dr. A. Joel Kaplovsky, Rutgers Professor Emeritus and former chair of the Department of Environmental Science, passed away on May 29. He was 94 years old.

Dr. Kaplovsky earned three degrees at Rutgers: a B.S. in Chemistry, an M.S. in Sanitation, Bacteriology and Microbial Physiology, and a Ph.D. in Sanitary Engineering Limnology. He had a distinguished public career in Illinois and Delaware before returning to Rutgers to serve as graduate program director for the Department of Environmental Sciences. He served as chair of the Department of Environmental Science from 1967 to July 1982, and became Professor Emeritus in May 1987.

While on the faculty at Rutgers, Dr. Kaplovsky planned and undertook fundraising for the multi-million dollar Environment Science Research Building, which was dedicated in June, 1982. He also planned and established the first State Operator Training Center for Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities. Construction of this facility was completed in 1982.

Dr. Kaplovsky was the author of 67 technical and non-technical publications in the field of water and waste, plus an additional 109 miscellaneous publications. He was the recipient of the A.S. Bedell Award for outstanding personal service in the sewage and industrial wastes field and is a Life Member of the Water Environment Federation. In 1967, the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago multi-million dollar research and control laboratory was named the "Dr. A. Joel Kaplovsky Research and Control Laboratory" in his honor. In 2005 he was awarded the Dennis M. Fenton Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award by the Cook College Alumni Association.

He is survived by his daughters, Nancy Coffey, who lives in Washington, DC, and Lynn Hazen, who resides with her husband, John, in Edison, NJ.