

KENDALL EUGENE ATKINSON: AN APPRECIATION

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1. Dedication. In June 2005, Kendall Eugene Atkinson retired as Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Computer Science, after a long and distinguished career at the University of Iowa. This special issue of the Journal of Integral Equations and Applications is dedicated to Ken Atkinson in appreciation of his many contributions to the theory and practice of numerical methods for the treatment of integral equations and his years of exemplary editorial service to the Journal and dedication to the profession. The papers in this issue, spanning many areas of integral equations and related topics, from the theoretical to the numerical, and from the applied to the computational, are all dedicated to Ken by their authors, with respect and admiration. They are testimony of the high professional esteem and warm personal friendship in which Ken is held by his colleagues and peers.

2. A biographical sketch. Kendall Eugene Atkinson, an Iowan right down to the bone, was born in Centerville, Iowa, on March 23, 1940. The Atkinson family roots in Iowa stretch back to antebellum times. Ken's father, Harold Eugene Atkinson, was compelled by the economic hardships of the Great Depression to abandon his pre-law studies at Grinnell College; he turned to farming for a time, and then became a seed broker and expert on hybrid corn. Harold Atkinson rose to a vice presidency of the Corn States Hybrid Service and served as president of the Iowa Seed Dealers Association. Helen Fleming Atkinson, Ken's mother, is a graduate of Drake University and a retired teacher. She entered the profession while still 17 years old, in a one-room Iowa school house, and had a long career devoted to teaching the handicapped.

Ken attended elementary and secondary schools in Des Moines and entered Iowa State University as a student of mathematics and physics in 1958. Upon graduation in 1961 he was married to Alice Morse, a union that has produced two daughters, Elizabeth and Kathryn. The newlyweds headed to the University of Wisconsin where Ken held a