

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**Mark Louis Musa****1934-2014**

Distinguished professor emeritus of Italian Mark Musa passed away on December 31, 2014 in Pollensa, Mallorca (Spain). He was born on May 27, 1934. He leaves behind a wife, Isabella Silva Musa, and two sons, Max and Mark Andrea.

Mark Musa earned an undergraduate degree at Rutgers University in 1956, where he studied with poet and literary critic John Ciardi, a distinguished translator of Dante, under whose tutelage he translated and published a new version of Dante's *Vita Nuova*, an edition that has been continuously in print since its appearance in 1961. Musa completed his doctorate in Italian Studies in 1961 at Johns Hopkins University, where he studied with Leo Spitzer, Charles Singleton, and Anna Granville Hatcher before coming to Indiana University in the same year. In 1965, Musa founded the Indiana University Bologna Cooperative Studies Program, an institution that continues to be in operation to the present day, and it was under his guidance that the Italian doctoral program was first established on the Bloomington campus.

Musa received a Fulbright Fellowship to Italy (1956-58) and a Guggenheim Fellowship (1971), as well as Indiana University's Distinguished Teaching and Mentoring Award in 1996. During his long and productive career, he became known as one of America's most skillful translators and critics of Italian literary classics, including not only the *Vita Nuova* but also Dante's *Divine Comedy*, Petrarch's *Canzoniere*, Boccaccio's *The Decameron*, Machiavelli's *The Prince*, *The Italian Renaissance Reader*, and Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, some of which were products of his collaboration with other Indiana University colleagues. His books were published by major university and commercial presses, including The Viking Press, Penguin, Norton, Oxford University Press, and Indiana University Press. For his fine work on Dante, he was awarded the "Fiorino d'oro" ("gold florin") by the city of Florence, Italy.

All of those who knew Mark Musa will remember his sense of humor, his dedication to his students, and his love of Italy and Italian culture.

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