

FACULTY OBITUARIES

Tough but Fair

SED's **Joseph Borozne** set high standards for all of his students

By *Cynthia K. Buccini*

JOSEPH BOROZNE EXPECTED the most from his students.

"He had high standards," says Joan Dee, a School of Education associate dean. And while students liked and respected Borozne, who taught kinesiology at SED, they didn't find his classes easy. "He wanted it done right," Dee says.

Borozne (SED'52,'53,'57), a School of Education professor emeritus, died on April 19, 2011. He was 83.

Dee recalls Borozne as a quiet and generous colleague. If students didn't have the money for books, he would help pay for them. "He was a good friend when you needed someone," she says.

Among the other classes Borozne taught over the years were archery, badminton, basketball, gymnastics, swimming, lifesaving, scuba diving, soccer, volleyball, and wrestling.

Between classes, he would participate in the ballroom dance class, where he met and fell in love with Helen Costa, an Arthur Murray dance instructor, now retired from the BU Department of Physical Education, Recreation, & Dance. They never married, but remained lifelong partners.

Barbara Borden Morrissey (SAR'70) never had Borozne as a professor, but she can attest to his high expectations. "He helped me get a job teaching ballroom dancing as work-study," she recalls. "He always expected me to maintain very high grades, and believe me, he asked what they were. I knew him as a person who had very high standards, for himself and everyone else. He was fair, but tough."

Morrissey says she and Borozne remained close friends after she graduated. "He came to know my family, actually tutoring my daughter



in kinesiology," she says. "He will always have my love and respect."

Borozne was also remembered fondly by members of the BU Police Department, where he was a physical fitness instructor for many years. Captain Robert Molloy says Borozne provided the officers and supervisors with nutrition advice and resistance, strength, and cardiovascular training.

"He was a great source of information for so many police officers over the years," says Molloy, who remembers meeting Borozne when he joined the force in 1987. "I was 210 pounds. I thought I was in good shape. He said, 'I've got to get you on the scale.' He kept me honest with my diet. I wish I had him around now."

Molloy says Borozne was more than a friend to the department. "He was a member of our family."

Borozne was born on July 20, 1927, in Central Falls, R.I. He served in the U.S. Marines and was an instructor at the Young Men's Christian Union in Boston. He earned a BS, an EdM, and an EdD, all from BU, and he worked at the University until his retirement, in 2005. He was a BU wrestling coach from 1953 to 1954. From 1954 to 1970, he had a joint appointment in the School of Education and the physical education department, and from 1970 to 1994, he was coordinator of the corrective therapy program at SED.

Borozne was also a generous supporter of BU, which he considered home. The University paid tribute to his generosity by dedicating a small park in his honor, in front of SED. After his retirement, he enjoyed spending time in the park, meeting and chatting with students.