



**\*He used to be a printer teacher and a coach at Nebraska School for the Deaf in the 1960's.**

**Jack R. Gannon, '59 & H-'88**, one of Gallaudet's most illustrious alumni, passed away on March 14. He was 85 years old.

Jack was born at home in a house without running water in the Ozark Mountains near West Plains, Missouri on November 23, 1936. His life was filled with enduring love and outstanding achievement. He was the first in his family to earn a college degree and went on to become the first director of what is now the Office of Alumni Relations at Gallaudet. Jack dedicated himself to helping people understand Deaf life. As an advocate, educator, curator, and writer, he connected people and ideas. He inspired students, challenged accepted practices, and pushed for positive change. The impact of his contributions is immeasurable.

Jack saw the power of the past to deal with the present and guide the future. He painstakingly researched and documented national and international Deaf history, writing detailed and often-cited books that are now in libraries and schools throughout the world. Jack curated the *History Through Deaf Eyes* traveling exhibition that was seen by nearly one-half million people. The exhibition inspired the acclaimed *Through Deaf Eyes* documentary that reached millions via broadcast and is used in countless classrooms. Jack was an adviser to the film, and also interviewed about issues related to education, technology use, and being "healed" by a traveling preacher.

Jack married his Gallaudet sweetheart, **Rosalyn Faye Lee, '59**, in 1959, five days after their graduation. Jack and Rosalyn enjoyed retirement at the "Tempted to Be Content Farm" in New Market, Maryland. They spent their time with their beloved dogs, birdwatching, gardening, and entertaining friends and family.

In addition to his work, Jack will always be cherished as a great husband, an engaged father, and a loving grandfather. Gannon is survived by his wife of more than sixty years, Rosalyn Faye Lee Gannon; his son Jeffrey and his wife, Molly Luby; daughter Christine, director of Health and Wellness Programs at Gallaudet and her husband, Anthony Rosella; and four grandchildren, Ossie and Matilda Gannon and Gabriel and Ava Rosella.

A full appreciation of Jack and his remarkable life is forthcoming, and a memorial service will be held at Gallaudet in the future.

Visitation with the family will be Wednesday, March 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Church of the Brethren, 201 Fairview Avenue, Frederick, Maryland, at the chapel at entrance A.