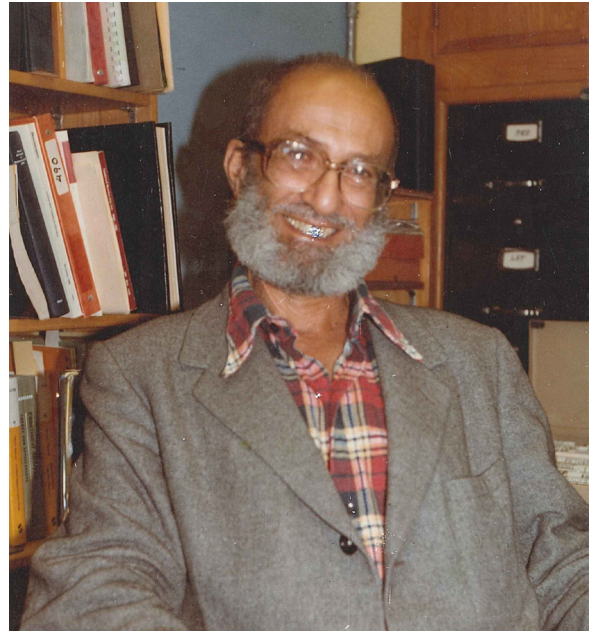# PAUL R. HALMOS

Paul Halmos was known for his work in operator theory, ergodic theory and functional analysis as well as his mathematical exposition and teaching style. He was born in Budapest and came to the United States in 1929, attending high school in Chicago. After receiving his PhD from the University of Illinois under Joseph Doob, he held numerous academic positions including ones at the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan, before joining the IU faculty in 1969. He remained an important fixture in the Department until his retirement in 1985, when he moved on to the University of Santa Clara.

Paul had a worldwide reputation as an exceptional expositor and authored numerous highly successful books including *Finite Dimensional Vector Spaces, Measure Theory, Algebraic Logic, A Hilbert Space Problem Book* and an autobiography *I Want to be a Mathematician*. He received the Steele Prize for exposition from the American Mathematical Society in 1983 and the Distinguished Teaching Award from the Mathematical Association of America in 1993. Paul was also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Guggenheim Fellow and the recipient of the Yueh-Gin Gung and Dr. Charles Y. Hu Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics from the MAA.

Born: Budapest, Hungary March 3, 1916
Died: Los Gatos, California October 2, 2006
Years at IU: 1969-1984

See also the Paul R. Halmos Papers, 1915-2006 at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, The University of Texas at Austin

"Who's That Mathematician? Images from the Paul R. Halmos Photograph Collection" *Convergance*