

The ALA Memorial Resolution Honoring Joseph John Harzbecker Jr.

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the Medical Library Association (MLA) lost a valued member and a colleague on March 5, 2024, with the death of Joseph John Harzbecker Jr.;

Whereas Harzbecker served as a reference librarian and head of reference and electronic collections management at the Boston University School of Medicine, Alumni Medical Library for 35 years;

Whereas Harzbecker received a Bachelor of Arts from Drew University, a Master in Library Science from Simmons University, and a Master of Arts in History from the University of Massachusetts Boston; Harzbecker also received an Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP) certification;

Whereas Harzbecker was active member in ALA, Association of College and Research Libraries, especially in the Distance & Online Learning Section, and MLA; Harzbecker was an active member in the AHIP certification committee and reviewed applications; Harzbecker presented extensively and published on a variety of topics in medical librarianship, collection development, and reference services in many scholarly book chapters and peer-reviewed articles in journals such as *Medical Reference Services*, *Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet*, and *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*;

Whereas Harzbecker was a historian and artist; his hobbies included lap swimming, cycling, stamp collecting, running, and traveling; Harzbecker was a member of the Knights of Columbus Mount Pleasant 98 where he was a past Grand Knight; Harzbecker was also a past secretary in the Boylston Schul-Verein German Social Club in Walpole; Harzbecker was a friend, colleague, and mentor to many; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association and the Medical Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the significant contributions and accomplishments of Joseph John Harzbecker Jr. over the course of his career and mourns his death; and
2. extends its sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Mover: Raymond Pun, CALA Councilor, raypun101@gmail.com

Seconder: Kara Whatley, ACRL Division Councilor, kwhatley@caltech.edu

Endorsers:

Adriana Blancarte-Hayward, ALA Councilor-at-large

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