

## **A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION HONORING RUSSELL SHANK**

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the Freedom to Read Foundation lost a renowned member and leader on June 26, 2012 with the death of Russell Shank;

Whereas Russell Shank served from 1967 to 1977 as the Smithsonian Institution's first-ever director of libraries;

Whereas he served as the first-ever vice chancellor for library and information services and planning, and in other leadership positions, at the UCLA Libraries from 1977-1989;

Whereas he served as the President of the American Library Association from 1978-79, during which time he joined ALA's Council in supporting the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment;

Whereas he was a staunch defender of intellectual freedom and received the Freedom to Read Roll of Honor in 1990; and

Whereas he was an extremely kind, sensitive person and in spite of his health challenges, never lost his sense of humor: now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

- (1) Recognizes the significant contributions of Russell Shank over the course of his distinguished career and mourns his death; and
- (2) Extends its sincerest condolences to his friends and family.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association  
Tuesday, July 2, 2013  
in Chicago, Illinois



Keith Michael Fiels  
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council