



## **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's 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.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association  
Monday, July 1, 2024, ALA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Burger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leslie Burger, Interim ALA Executive  
Director, and Secretary of the ALA  
Council