



JERRY L. CRAWFORD BIOGRAPHY

Jerry L. Crawford has authored over 30 plays, a book on acting, and a memoir. His plays have been performed Off-Broadway — including a piece in the Hal Prince revue *DIAMONDS* — and in Regional Theaters and in Universities across the country. A native Iowan, Crawford holds a B.F.A. in acting from Drake University, an M.A. in directing from Stanford University, and a PhD in playwriting from The University of Iowa. He taught at University of Nevada, Las Vegas for 32 years, founding their M.F.A. degree in playwriting. He retired in 1994 as Professor Emeritus and Barrick Distinguished Scholar. His many awards and honors include first prize in a national playwriting contest, creative stipends from the Nevada Regents and the Nevada Arts Council, recognition in major theatre organizations (including The Actors Studio, Circle In The Square), and also served as Dean of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre at the Kennedy Center. He travelled as a critic/responder for three decades for the

American College Theatre Festival and American Community Theatre Association. He was married to the late Patricia L. Bunn; they had a son and two daughters, all artists and teachers. Crawford is now retired in Marquette, Michigan, where he is Adjunct Professor at Northern Michigan University. He also writes film reviews under the title, "Yooper Critic" ("Yooper" being the name of those who live in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan). He continues to write plays. They continue to be performed. *"However,"* writes Jerry, *"not as often as desired."* One reason for this is Jerry's obsession with the Cleveland Indians. Yes, the baseball team. He met Hall of Fame pitcher, Bob Feller, in 1947 and became an addicted fan forever. Jerry even managed to travel through spring trainings with the team in 1984 and 1991 as a bogus sports journalist, aided by two nationally acclaimed genuine writers, Terry Pluto and Sheldon Ocker. "Writing plays, film reviews, and following the Indians continues apace," concludes Jerry. *"THE BEAT GOES ON."*

