

Death of Dr. Richard C. Wolf

Obituary

Madison, Wisconsin—Richard C. Wolf (Dick to his friends, Dad to his sons, and Ampa to his grandchildren) died on Sunday, January 14, 2001, after a brief illness. He was an emeritus professor of physiology at UW-Madison, having retired in 1986. He was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on November 28, 1926. Dick served as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was stationed on Okinawa, and later Japan. He went on to earn his bachelor of science degree at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and his Ph.D. at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He did post-doctorate research at Harvard University before coming to Madison in 1957 as an assistant professor of physiology. Dick became department chairman in 1971. Wolf served on several committees throughout his career, including the Scientific Advisory Board, Yerkes Regional Primate Center, Emory University; Research Career Award Committee, National Institutes of Health; consultant, Ford Foundation; director, Endocrinology-Reproductive Physiology Program, UW-Madison; advisor, World Health Organization Conference, Sukhumi, U.S.S.R.; and chairman, Animal Welfare Committee, UW Primate Research Center. He was also a member of several professional societies, including the Endocrine Society; fellow, New York Academy of Sciences; American Association for the Advancement of Science; American Physiological Society; Society for Endocrinology, Great Britain; Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine; Society for the Study of Reproduction; and the International Primatological Society.

His academic achievements were listed in several reference books, including Who's Who in America, American Men & Women of Science, Who's Who in World Medicine, Who's Who in Science, and Men of Achievement. He was also a contributing author of six books and nearly 150 articles on scientific research related to physiology. Dick earned the Teacher of the Year Award in 1971, and after his retirement earned the Emeritus Faculty Award in 1995. He also was a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. Since 1959, Dick was a very active member of Luther Memorial Church, having served on many committees including a term as president of the church council. In his free time, he was an avid reader and golfer. He was a member of the Edelweiss Chalet Club in New Glarus. He also enjoyed domestic and international travel. In his retirement, Dick also enjoyed a year of introducing science to first graders at Yahara Elementary School in Stoughton. Dick is survived by his wife, Marilyn, whom he married on August 23, 1952; children, Mark (Christine) of Akron, Pennsylvania, and Eric (Barb) of Oregon, Wisconsin; and a brother, Tom (Patricia) of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kevin and Erin of Oregon, Wisconsin, who were very special to him and held a dear place in his heart. They always brought a smile to Ampa's face and a twinkle to his eye. He was preceded in death by his father, Clarence; and mother, Bertha. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Luther Memorial Pastoral Discretion Fund, UW Foundation-Medical School, Oakwood Foundation or the Salvation Army.

Funeral services will be Saturday, January 20, 2001, at 11:00 a.m. at LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH, 1021 University Ave., with visitation in the great room of the church beginning at 9:00 a.m. Parking will be available at Grainger Hall (enter on Brooks Street).

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