

In Memoriam - Stanley Wainwright

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In Memoriam - Stanley Wainwright

Stanley Wainwright, a long-time faculty member of the Department of Biochemistry (now Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) died on September 15, 2003.

Born in 1927, in Hull, Yorkshire, England, Wainwright received his undergraduate education at Cambridge, where he obtained a First in biochemistry. He went on to the University of London, where he obtained his PhD in 1950, working under the direction of Martin Pollock. Periods of work followed at the Pasteur Institute, Columbia University, Atomic Energy of Canada in Chalk River, Ontario and Yale University. While in these positions, he worked with many distinguished scientists. His personal relationships with them enabled him to call on them during his years at Dalhousie, inviting them to come here to present seminars and serve as external examiners. Wainwright came to Dalhousie in 1956. Throughout his years here, until his retirement in 1992, he was a Medical Research Associate, first of the National Research Council, and later of the Medical Research Council. Although his was primarily a research appointment, he was also admired as a teacher with rigorous standards.

Dr. Wainwright's research interests centered on the control of protein biosynthesis. In addition to a large number of papers in scientific journals, he was the author of a major monograph, "Control Mechanisms in Protein Synthesis" (1972). His encyclopedic knowledge of molecular biology gave his colleagues an invaluable, critically annotated base for discussion and research. Over the years, Dr. Wainwright used a wide variety of biological systems in his research; his last project before retirement dealt with the role of the pineal gland in the maintenance of circadian rhythms in chicks. In this extremely labour-intensive study, he was assisted by his wife, Dr. Lillian Wainwright, herself an able biologist who taught at Mount St. Vincent University until her retirement. This investigation entailed all-night work extending over several years, which the husband and wife team shared.

Stanley Wainwright was predeceased by his wife. He leaves two sons, David and Peter. At his request, there will be no funeral service.