



November 28, 2017

R.J. Michael Fry, July 8, 1925 – November 24, 2017 In Memoriam

Richard Jeremy Michael Fry died peacefully Friday, November 24, 2017, at age 92 due to the rupture of an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He and his wife Shirley, three sons and their families including eight grandchildren had celebrated Thanksgiving together just the day before.

Dr. Fry became a member of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) in 1981 and continued until his election as a Distinguished Emeritus Member in 1993. He was on the NCRP Board of Directors from 1990 to 1993 and the 1994 Lauriston S. Taylor Lecturer. He chaired the 1987 Annual Meeting Program Committee and served as a member of several others. Michael was involved in NCRP Reports Nos. 64, 98, 104, 115, 116, 117, 132, 150, and 153 that reflected his interest in radiation carcinogenesis and established many of the criteria used by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for space radiation protection. He served on committees of the National Academy of Sciences, including the now defunct National Committee of Photobiology and the Board on Radiation Effects Research. Other service included on the International Commission on Radiological Protection from 1985 to 2001, the International Association for Radiation Research, committees for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Institutes of Health Radiation Study Section.



Michael qualified in Medicine at the University of Dublin, Trinity College, then spent a few years in clinical appointments before he returned to the Physiology Department at Trinity. During the next 10 y he spent 2 y on leave at the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) working mainly on cell proliferation. Two years after returning to Trinity he became a member of the staff at ANL, also becoming a senior scientist and professor in the Department of Radiology, University of Chicago. In 1977 he joined the Biology Division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) until his retirement. While at ORNL he was Editor-in-Chief of Radiation Research. From 2008 to 2015 he was an Associate Editor of an encyclopedic site hosted by NASA, The Health Risks of Extraterrestrial Environments. The Michael Fry Research Award is given by the Radiation Research Society yearly since 1996 to recognize junior scientists who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of radiation research.

Michael influenced so many careers but it was the personal relationships that were so very much enjoyed (and what will be missed most of all). He was indeed a treasure — to his family, friends and the world! So many of us are much better off because of Michael's life, influence and encouragement.



Contributions can be made to a charity of your choice that seeks to improve the quality of life of those less fortunate. Among those of Dr. Fry's favorites are *Doctors Without Borders* and *Habitat for Humanity*. Messages to the family may be sent to rjmsaf@aol.com or to:

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