

In Memoriam – Professor John Gardiner MA (Cantab) PhD CChem FRSC

We regret to inform you of the passing of Professor John Ernest Gardiner on 3rd June, 2020, in Perth, Western Australia, just prior to his 93rd birthday. John was born in 1927, educated at Dartford Grammar School, then went to St Catharine's College, Cambridge from 1945-48 on the Thorne Memorial Exhibition Scholarship and Soley Scholarship of the Draper's Company and studied Natural Sciences. He subsequently attained his MA in 1959. He progressed to a PhD awarded in 1951 from the University of Leeds with his thesis on Biochemical Aspects of Insecticides.

Research Fellow appointments followed initially at the University of Leeds, then University of Cincinnati, then a Lecturer's appointment in 1954 to the Department of Pharmacology at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. He took up a visiting Professorship in Tulane University in New Orleans, USA in 1963 and then undertook some travel with the aid of a Wellcome Trust Travel Grant to visit Universities in USA, Australia and Asia.

Following this trip, he was the successful applicant to the Chair of Pharmacology at the University of Singapore in 1966. John was the Professor of Pharmacology in the School of Medicine, National University of Singapore from 1966-1981. With the establishment of the second School of Medicine in Hong Kong at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sha Tin, John was encouraged to apply for the inaugural professorial Chair of Pharmacology alongside other well-regarded experienced Chairs. John was a Fellow of New Asia College and Professor of Pharmacology at CUHK until his retirement in 1990.

John had many research interests and was well published with peer-reviewed publications. He was a PhD supervisor for many research fellows and maintained his own research interests throughout his academic career. John had a wide variety of interests outside his work, including woodwork, electronics, photography and travel. He developed an early interest in computers, building his own from scratch while learning how to program as needed. This interest in computers was maintained throughout his life. He was a Fellow and life member of the Royal Society of Chemistry, also a member of the British Pharmacological Society and the Biochemical Society.

Following retirement, he lived in Western Australia. He is survived by his wife, Dawn, 2 children and 5 grandchildren.