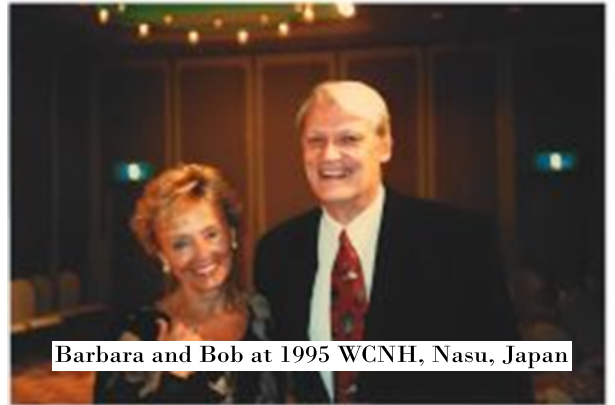


IN MEMORIAM

DR. BOB SCHRIER

1936-2021

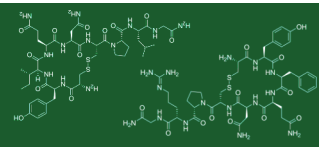
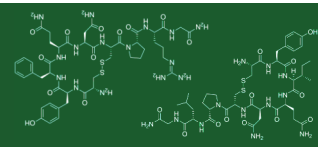
When Bob Schrier passed away on January 23, 2021, the world of physiology, medicine and nephrology lost a giant in the field, and I lost a cherished friend. Bob's outstanding scientific, clinical, and academic leadership contributions have been well documented in memorial tributes published in academic journals such as *Kidney International*, *The Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and *The Lancet*.



Barbara and Bob at 1995 WCNH, Nasu, Japan

In this brief tribute, Joe Verbalis will highlight Bob's groundbreaking clinical contributions. Since Bob is being remembered at this WCNH in Atlanta, I will focus on my personal friendship with him through our mutual interest in vasopressin research and our get-togethers at scientific meetings, many times with his wife, Barbara, over the years since our first encounter at the International Conference on the Neurohypophysis in Key Biscayne in 1976, followed six years later in 1982 by another highly memorable Neurohypophysis meeting at Cambridge University. In 1984, Bob initiated a series of four triennial vasopressin meetings in Aspen (1984), Smuggler's Notch (1987, where I shared accommodations with Bob and his collaborator, Dr. Daniel Bichet), Montpellier (1990), and Berlin (1993). Bob played a pivotal role in the initiation of the biennial WCNH meeting in Nasu, Japan (1995). He became a regular, highly enthusiastic participant in these biennial symposia. I was continually impressed by his amazing ability to summarize the key findings presented at the WCNH meetings in Nasu (1995), Montreal (1997), Edinburgh (1999), Bordeaux (2001), Kyoto (2003), Steamboat Springs (2005) and Regensburg (2007).

Historically, contributions to the human physiology of vasopressin and clinical disorders of water homeostasis have been made by endocrinologists and nephrologists, working on regulation of pituitary vasopressin secretion and end organ effects in the kidney, respectively. Bob's research encompassed both of these important aspects of vasopressin physiology and pathology. In that regard, he was a truly integrative physician scientist in the broadest sense of that term. The expansiveness of his research prowess is reflected in the >1,000 publications that covered acute kidney injury, autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease, hypertension, diabetic kidney disease, and hormonal control of fluid and electrolytes in cirrhosis, heart failure, nephrotic syndrome and pregnancy. It is the latter for which we in WCNH most remember Bob's signal contributions to our field. He was able to integrate vasopressin into the bigger picture of regulation of body fluid homeostasis in a knowledgeable and understandable evidence-based framework. I have always, and probably always will, cite his landmark paper, "Pathogenesis of sodium and water retention in high-output and low-output cardiac failure, nephrotic syndrome, cirrhosis, and pregnancy". *N Engl J Med* 319:1065, 1988) as a classic example of integrative physiology applied to human pathophysiology. But perhaps of most long-lasting impact, Bob was a dedicated and superb mentor, not only to his own fellows, residents and students, but also to (then) young investigators like me across the globe. He was always eager to listen to new ideas from young investigators, and generously offered his sage advice and support for their research careers. I will be forever indebted to Bob for that support. As recounted by his family, one of Bob's favorite quotes was by George Bernard Shaw: "Some men see things as they are and ask why. Others dream things that never were and ask, why not." Bob epitomized that dream to the lasting benefit of all of us at WCNH.





Bob was one of the brightest and inspiring people we have had the privilege to know. He will be greatly missed but warmly remembered by all who knew, respected, and loved him. We know that he would have been deeply appreciative of having this WCNH symposium named in his honor. Our deepest condolences to his wife, Barbara, and to his immediate and (very large) extended family.

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