



Dr. John W. Huffman

July 21, 1932 - May 14, 2022

With great sadness, we must report that Dr. John Huffman passed away this last weekend on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at the age of 89.

After earning his B.S. (1954) from Northwestern University, John earned his Ph.D. (1957) with Nobel laureate Prof. R. B. Woodward at Harvard, where he was awarded an NIH Predoctoral Fellowship. He continued his academic career at Georgia Institute of Technology, later joining Clemson University in 1960. He received an NIH Career Development Award in 1965, and later, he received an NIH Senior Scientist Award. John's research career produced over 140 peer-reviewed publications.

Beginning his research career as a synthetic organic chemist, John focused on collaborating with medical researchers to create solutions for rare or significant illnesses. In the mid-1980s, Huffman and his team of researchers began synthesizing cannabinoid compounds for medical research purposes. Over the course of his career, he and his team developed over 400 synthetic cannabinoid compounds which were used as research tools to study endocannabinoid and cannabinoid receptor pharmacology and physiology. John was a Founding Member of the International Cannabinoid Research Society, and was awarded our ICRS Mechoulam Award in 2006.

John's contribution to cannabinoid research is immeasurable. He provided the chemical *tools* for our better understanding of the physiological cannabinoid control system in the human body and brain, with potential applications in the treatment of human diseases and management of pain. Beyond his research success, Dr. Huffman frequently stated that his proudest professional accomplishment was seeing the success and achievements of his students, many of whom became his lifelong friends. He supervised doctoral dissertations of 39 PhD candidates and served as the major advisor for approximately 20 Master's students.

Dr. Huffman's humor, his kindness and his generosity will be dearly missed.

In his memory, the family requests donations to the charitable cause of your choice.