



Edward G. Jones

1939-2011





It is with great sadness that on June 6th, 2011 UC Davis and the greater neuroscience community lost Dr. Edward G. (Ted) Jones, who passed away while attending a conference in Los Angeles. Dr. Jones was the former director of the UC Davis Center for Neuroscience and has been an active and valuable member of the neuroscience community both at Davis and at other institutions. He will be greatly missed by family, friends, and colleagues.

Jones' work on the structure and function of the central nervous system was distinguished by enormous breadth and scope, both intellectually and technically. He has made seminal contributions to understanding the circuitry, cellular properties, and basic organizational plans of the

cerebral cortex and thalamus, their development, functional interrelationships, plasticity, and pathology. He has received many prestigious awards, including the Cajal Medal, the Henry Gray award, and the Karl Spencer Lashley Award.

Ted Jones was born in New Zealand and received his M.D. in 1962 from the University of Otago. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Oxford in 1968 and held teaching positions at both institutions before joining the faculty at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, M.O., in 1972. In 1978 he became a US Citizen, and in 1984 joined the University of California as the chair for the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at UC Irvine. In 1998 Jones became the

Director of the Center for Neuroscience at UC Davis, a position he held until 2009. During his tenure as director, Ted also served as president of the Society for Neuroscience, contributed greatly to the Human Brain Project, and in 2004 was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Although he officially retired in the summer of 2009, he passionately continued to pursue his research until his sudden passing.

Ted was 72 years old.





Ted was first and foremost a family man.
He was loving and loyal.




"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
love leaves a memory no one can steal."
-Anon

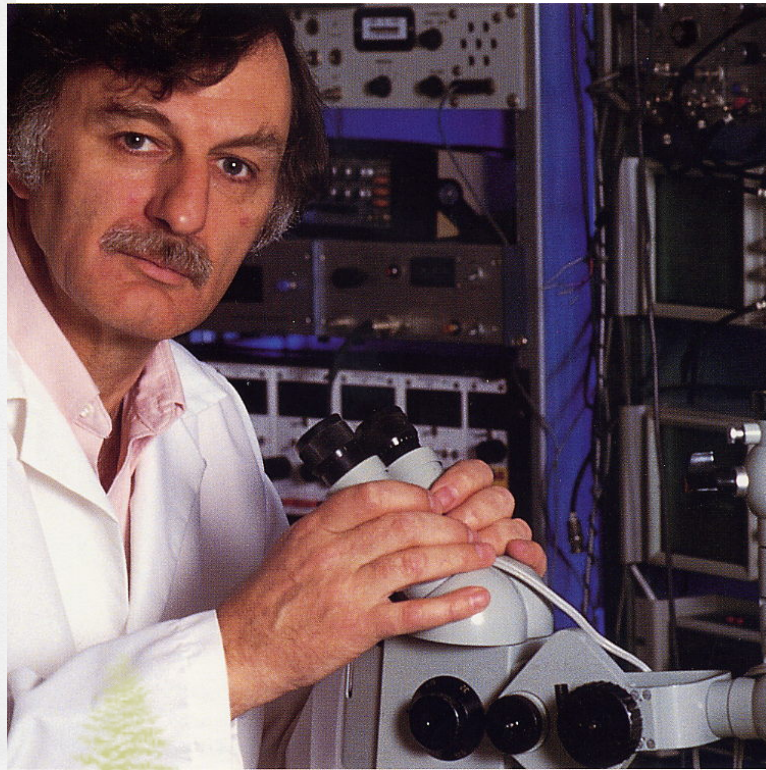
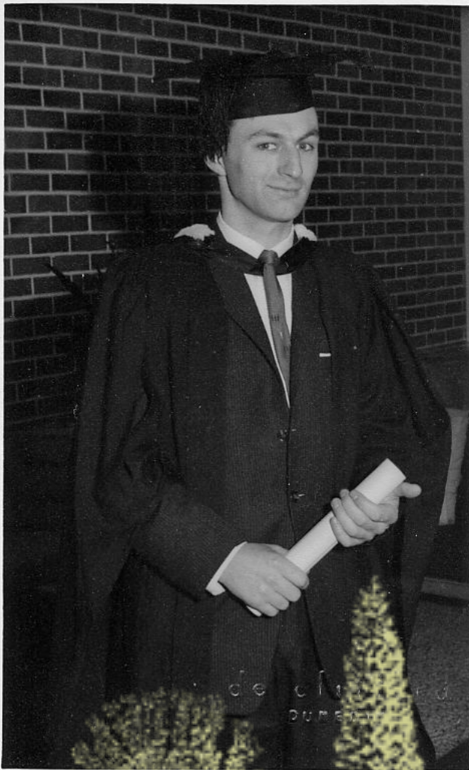
"I consoled myself then in the way that I have always been in the habit of doing...namely by bathing my soul in nature...For one who is capable of appreciating its enchantment, the country is the sovereign soother of emotions, the unreplaceable commutator of thoughts."

-Santiago Ramon y Cajal

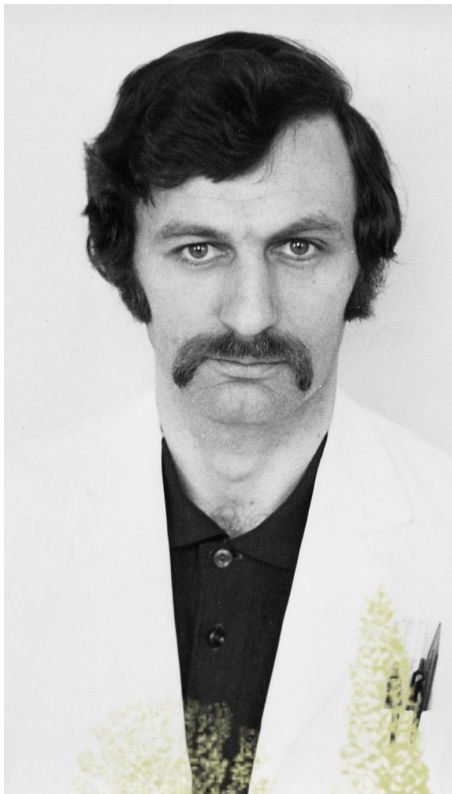




“The brain is a world consisting of a number of unexplored continents and great stretches of unknown territory.”
-Santiago Ramon y Cajal




“Death comes to all. But great achievements build a monument which shall endure until the sun grows cold.”
-George Fabricius



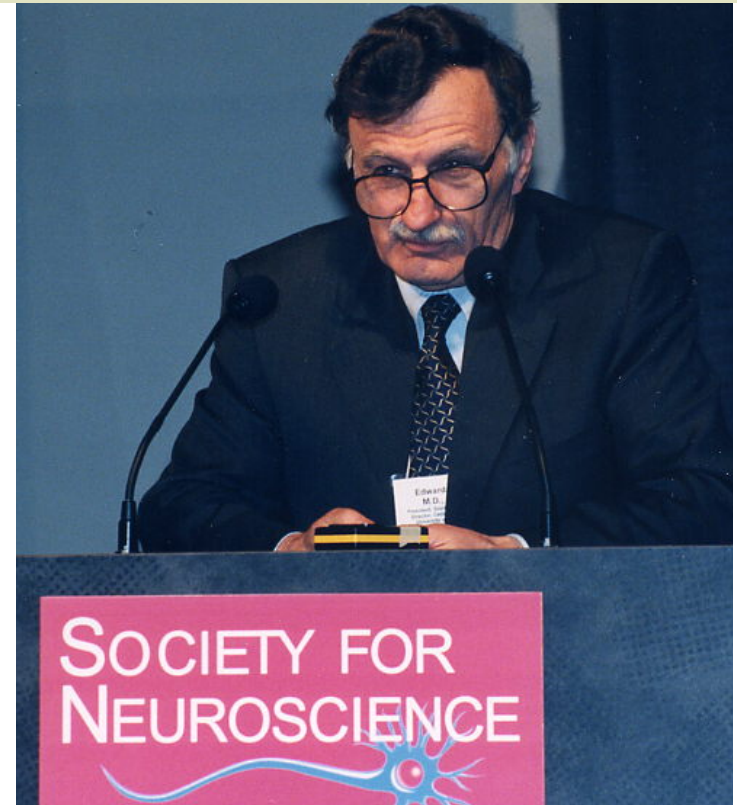
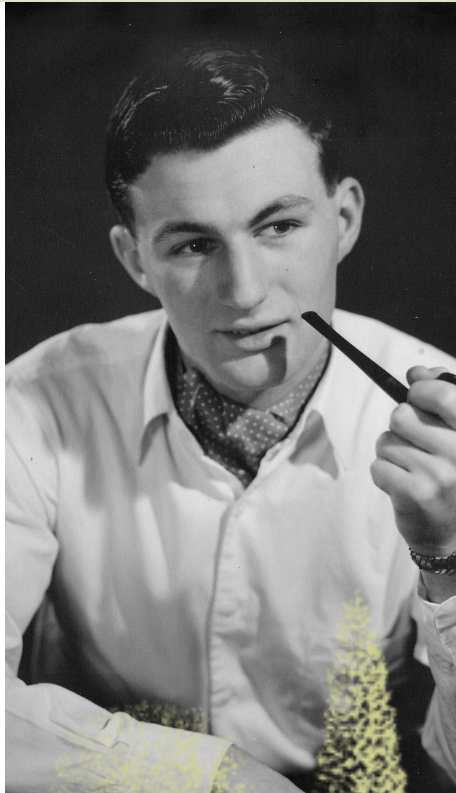
“To know the brain...is equivalent to ascertaining the material course of thought and will, to discovering the intimate history of life in its perpetual duel with external forces.”

-Santiago Ramon y Cajal

“Work harder, faster”
-Ted Jones



“As long as our brain is a mystery, the universe, the reflection of the structure of the brain will also be a mystery.”
-Santiago Ramon y Cajal



Ted's lab and legacy



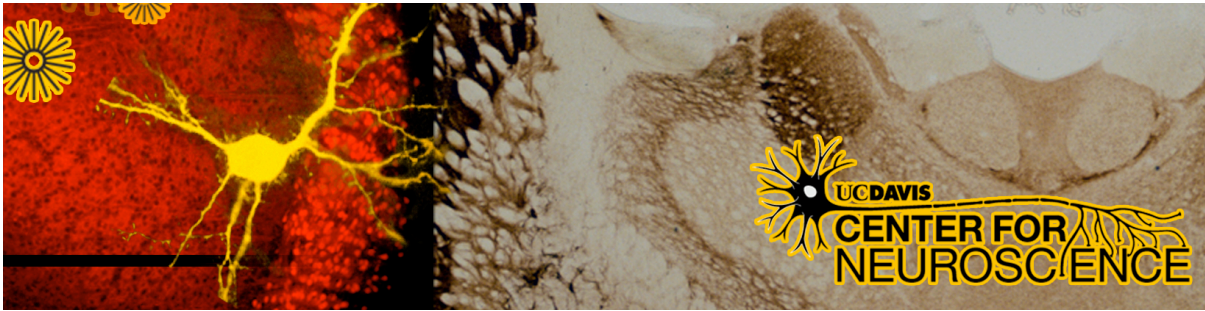
"Ted was a trusted friend, beloved colleague, and an exceptional mentor for me in so many ways. He is irreplaceable, and I miss him deeply..."

-Prabha Choudary



"This is going to be one of the top neuroscience campuses in the country. There's no doubt about that because we have the resources to do it and the leadership which is inspired enough to do it."

-Ted Jones, 1999



Reflections

I still remember how Ted described my research: "The wonderland of Brain Development" - "The first thing I've got to do," said Alice to herself, as she wandered about in the wood, "is to grow to my right size ... and the second thing is to find my way into that lovely garden"- Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

I feel lucky to be part of the energetic scientific family Ted created here at Davis. More importantly, Ted had personally demonstrated to me what a genuine scholar should be. Talking to Ted gave me a sense of connecting to the history of neuroscience – an irreplaceable feeling that I will miss the most.

-Hwai-Jong Cheng

I was deeply saddened by the sudden loss of Ted. I've known Ted for over 20 years and was fortunate to have him as a mentor. I will sorely miss his passion for science and his keen insight and the depth of his knowledge of the brain. He was the hardest working person I knew and his high standard for science always inspired me to try and do better work.

He always encouraged new ideas and gave you the space to pursue them. I will also miss our Friday lunch meetings where he would regale us all with tales from his travels and humorous anecdotes about colleagues past or present. These discussions more often than not were great lessons in history and I wish we had them on record. I think the thing I'll miss most about Ted though is his razor sharp wit. His jabs, usually peppered with literary references, were fast, dry and always on the mark. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

-Karl Murray

I and my family are extremely saddened to hear that Ted passed away. As a senior member in Ted's lab, I am very fortunate to have Ted as a mentor for many years. His passion for science always inspired me to work harder and he was a role model for me and the coming generations to pursue a career as a neuroscientist. I still remember my first long eight plus hour intracellular labeling experiment with Ted, our painstaking analysis on thousands of electron micrographs, many hours

printing in the darkroom and numerous corrections Ted made on my manuscripts. These memories will be kept in my life forever. Ted is the kindest person I have ever met; his generosity will be remembered by all of us. May Ted rest in peace.

-Xiao Bo Liu

I have always felt privileged to work for Ted and I have been continually amazed at both the breadth and depth of his knowledge and interests. Words can not express my feeling of loss at his passing, but I do have my memories of him. Some of my memory snippets of Ted:

- The first time I met him in 1998 to interview for a position
- Sitting next to him at an SfN meeting, watching him become increasingly nervous prior to giving a plenary speech even after over a week's preparation, and then seeing him settle down after beginning the talk
- Enjoying the Jones' hospitality at their Winters home
- The olive oil on our kitchen counter
- The way he gave you the freedom to pursue ideas
- Him sitting at a microscope for

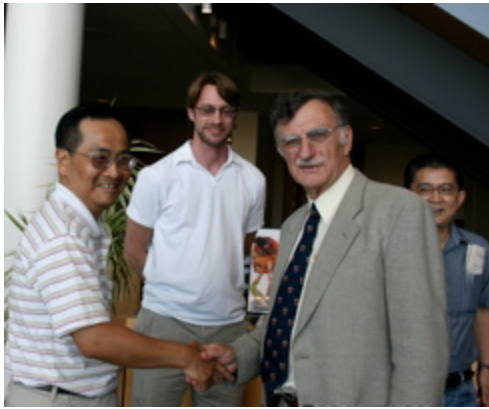


seemingly interminable periods of time
- His remarkable eye for image quality
Eating lunch with him while he tells us about his and Sue's latest trip

-Jim Stone

Dr. Jones was a great scientist, and a titan in the field of neuroscience. His classic books on the thalamus and other areas were remarkable and impressive. He was a major role model for me in work, studies and life. In recent years, I had experienced assisting him closely with work on human brain dissections. No matter what the dissection, one sample or one hundred samples, he was always precise and careful, happy and confident in finishing all the dissections. He once told me that he liked spending more time with our group since his retirement. He deserved all the awards and respect he received. I worked for Dr. Jones for ten years. He was an extraordinary PI and someone I had the utmost respect for. I enjoyed working with him very much. I will remember him forever.

-Xiaohong Fan



Ted was always willing to discuss scientific questions, and to share his knowledge and resources with us. Although he never accepted authorship on any of the papers from my lab, nonetheless many would never have been published without his help. I will sorely miss his straightforward gruff impatience with anything but the essentials.

-Barbara Chapman

I will always hold a very special place for Ted in my heart. He changed my life 11 years ago by hiring me at the UC Davis Center for Neuroscience. I will be forever grateful to Ted for his support, patience, confidence, and kindness. His unique blend of awe-inspiring knowledge, his wry humor, his passion for discovery, his unwavering ambition, and his requirement for excellence are qualities that I deeply admired and will inspire me forever.

-Kim McAllister

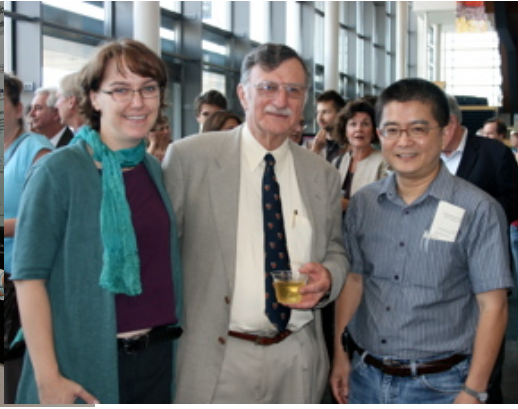
He was sparing with his compliments but his pride showed through the cracks... he had a twinkle in his eye, a delight in science; he was a scientist's



scientist. He had a bit of the theater about him, the pomp and a wry self awareness that may have allowed him to chuckle at this stage we strut and fret upon. And though we may all be but poor players, our words signifying nothing, he knew too that the play is all and he loved the play. Ted was instrumental in my professional life. He hired me to my first professional position. He advocated for me to get tenure even after he had stepped down. His faith in me never seemed to waver. I witnessed his pride in all of the members of the Center. I am proud to have been chosen by him and I think he assembled a daring and brilliant cast as Director. I will miss him.

-Noelle L'Etoile

I remember clearly meeting Ted for the first time when I was interviewing for a faculty position at the Center for Neuroscience. As I entered his office, Ted walked over to one of his many bookshelves, pulled out a rather large volume, opened it to a page in the middle and showed me a beautiful electron micrograph that was one of very few published that was directly relevant to my seminar. It was truly



inspiring. Upon arriving at UC Davis, I found Ted to be a supportive and caring mentor and an inspiring and devoted scientist and scholar. Ted was a source of encouragement and perspective, a wellspring of advice and resources, and a fountain of scientific knowledge. I consider myself very lucky to have had the opportunity to know and learn from Ted Jones.

-Karen Zito

A few years ago, I volunteered to do a presentation on the brain for my daughter's 2nd grade class. I was hoping to dig into Ted's collection of brains to get one to show to the kids, but I was nervous to ask Ted if I could use his resources for something so frivolous. Eventually, I asked him if I could borrow a brain for a presentation I was giving. Ted of course asked me what for, and I admitted it was for my daughter's class. To my surprise, his face lit up, and he said, "that's great, I remember when I did that for my kids. They loved it!" He then called to his lab and arranged for me to get more brains than I needed--human, monkey, rat, mouse, ferret, etc. This reminded me of



both Ted's kind heart and his love for teaching.

-Charan Ranganath

Ted's legacy as a scientist and mentor is simply awesome. Even so, some of my strongest memories have to do with his personal side, aka the not gruff part. I especially remember Ted's reaction to the news that our daughter was to be born with serious health issues. I had been at Davis less than a year and sat in his office numbly reciting the doctor's verdict: a long and difficult path of surgeries. I do not remember Ted's specific words. I do remember a tear running down his face. Those of us lucky enough to know him would not be surprised at this expression of empathy. Shortly thereafter, Ted and Sue gave us a young, hearty olive tree to plant in our yard in celebration of the birth. Nine years later, both are thriving. Thank you, Ted, for the confidence you displayed in all of us.

-Will DeBello



Ted was the perfect mentor. Through example, he showed us that success occurs by striving for excellence, he proved that one can appreciate the past while pushing forward the future and, most importantly, he demonstrated that the best motivation comes from a pure love of science. Ted was an amazing colleague, generous with his time, equipment, and expertise. He never hesitated to read and provide comments on a manuscript, and he would make you feel good by reciprocating with his own work (though he didn't really need any input). Ted was a great friend. Most of all, I will miss the conversations, time sharing slides at the microscope, visits to his library, and the wonderful dinners he and Sue hosted at "Ranchito Jones" in Winters. Ted, thank you for being my mentor, colleague, and friend. I miss you, and will cherish the memories.

-Marty Usrey

Ted was there when I needed him. Often I would come to him flying off the handle about some grant review, or new rule put in place that would set my



research back. He would calm me down, and say don't worry I'll make some calls. They say Ted did not suffer fools lightly, but he suffered this fool. We will miss you Ted.

-Mitch Sutter

I would like to thank Ted for always having an open door, both at the Center and in Winters. Ted was always there when I needed him and found some encouraging and supportive words. Ted, we will miss you!

-Jochen Ditterich

Ted was a wonderful colleague and mentor since we first met when I was in graduate school, and I valued his friendship very much. I am grateful for his scientific generosity of both equipment and intellect over the years.

-Gregg Recanzone

Ted made the Center for Neuroscience a special place. He gave us advice, support, and advocated on our behalf to get us everything he could to help us



succeed. He was one of those few people who maintained extreme rigor and scholarship but balanced that sense with a genuine enthusiasm for new ideas. He always kept an open door, put up with countless questions about anatomy, peer review, grants, money, space, etc. and never kept me waiting for an answer. He could always be counted on for clear and practical advice about how to navigate complex professional issues. He introduced us to the biggest names in the field and he and Sue generously hosted us at their home for great food and wine.

-Charan Ranganath

I will always remember the incredible hospitality with which Ted greeted me in arriving at the Center. He was an inspiration at work through his approach to science, and a supportive director who alternately mixed a no-nonsense approach to removing administrative roadblocks with a healthy peppering of good-natured humor. Outside the office, I will always remember how he opened up his house to me for dinners with he and Sue when I first arrived, and



offered tutelage in olive production which inspired us to harvest our own tree and make our own olive oil.

-Mark Goldman

I am grateful that Ted enticed me to join the Center eleven years ago. Moving my family, my research, and my laboratory from Taiwan to the United States constituted a very big and unknown change for us. However, the Center that Ted was establishing was a big lure. Ted's encouragement overcame our anxiety, and, as a result, the trajectory of our lives changed dramatically. My children are established and thriving in Davis. My wife is employed as a physician in the Sacramento area. My own laboratory has grown. I have also developed valuable collaborations and have made considerable progress in my research programs. Members of my lab and I are all excited and enthusiastic about our discoveries and have much to anticipate in the future. Thank you, Ted.

-Tsung-Yu Chen



I can only think of a small number of people whom I have known during my life who were truly great, who stood apart by virtue of their intellect, their knowledge and their perspective. That was Ted. He truly understood the profundity of neuroscience. It drove him to extraordinary scholarship. He also understood his unique role as a leader and a mentor. When I would meet with him about science it would be like taking a deep drink from this well of knowledge. That was a great opportunity that will never be replaced. I will always remember him.

-Cameron Carter

I always found Ted to be a remarkable leader. He would listen to the voice of the group even when he had strong ideas about what path we should take next. Even though we were in no way his equals, he would always treat us that way. This humility showed up in conversations about science as well. I remember once asking him about some point of cortical connectivity - about which he probably knew more than anyone else on the planet - and he said, "You know, I'm not really a systems neuroscientist anymore." But



then, of course, he gave a detailed and insightful answer to my question. A truly remarkable mind. I will greatly miss him as a leader, a colleague, a neighbor and friend.

-Ken Britten

It is difficult to describe all that Ted was, as a scientist and a director of the Center for Neuroscience. Ted inspired by example; he showed an unwavering commitment to his science and to scientific excellence, and also commitment to those whom he hired in launching their careers. His seemingly gruff exterior and unique communication style of guttural hurumphs, scientific debate, opinion, and occasionally avuncular concern, made him a natural leader. I will always feel extraordinarily grateful to Ted for all that he did not only for my own career, but for having the vision and ability to recruit ten new faculty in diverse areas. Like Ted's own love of neuroscience, he appreciated the need for all biological levels of inquiry, and he successfully assembled a group with much talent and desire for interaction. With him, the Center for Neuroscience enjoyed a truly remarkable era of expansion and



cohesion. But I most of all will miss his encouragement, to not to lose heart, about anything. Instead, his constant urging: keep going, do more, do better, do not rest, you can do this.

-Marie Burns

I am privileged and yet saddened to bid a solemn farewell to Dr. Edward G. Jones, the man we have all come to call Ted. Ted was a remarkable, gentle and inspiring man, and every moment we shared, with his family and ours, was a joy. He was my mentor, a friend and in so many ways, the father I wished I had. His words of encouragement were subtle but once you understood them, they inspired and transformed you. To those who knew him, no explanation of his words was necessary. To those who didn't, no explanation was possible. Our relation transcended friendship, love and respect for each other. We debated unflinchingly on agreeable issues. But it was when we disagreed, that we felt we belonged to the same fraternity of scholars. The more variant our thoughts were, the closer we became. Although what we've lost is tremendous, what he gave us is immeasurable. Ted, Megan,

Nipavan and I shall never find your clone. We miss you already.

-Ebenezer, Nipavan and Megan Yamoah

I am shocked and distressed by Ted's sudden death. It is ironic that he died at UCLA, the place where I first met him in 1973 when he chaired an NIH site visit of Don Lindlsey's lab where I was a postdoc at the time. He was a great scientist who made seminal contribution to many fields in neuroscience and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to collaborate with him on several studies while he was Chair of Anatomy at UC Irvine. I consider my recruitment of Ted as the third director of the CNS one of my major accomplishments while at UC Davis. He build on what Mike started and brought neuroscience at Davis to the next level. Ted was a good friend and a wonderful host (with Sue) of dinners and parties at their Winters home. At times gruff on the outside, he was a warm and sensitive person who cared deeply about his family, friends and science. I shall miss him greatly.

-Leo Chalupa

*We will miss you
Ted*

