Richard Wier Katzberg, M.D.

Dr. Richard Wier Katzberg, Emeritus Professor of the University of California Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, CA, and Research Adjunct Professor of the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston SC, passed away precipitously of pancreatic carcinoma at the age of 71 on September 2, 2017.

Dr. Katzberg was born on October 23, 1945 in Valdosta, Georgia. After receiving his M.D. degree (ADA) in 1972, he completed his internship and residency at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY, in 1977. He then served in the U.S. Air Force at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center in San Antonio, TX, as Chief of Genitourinary Radiology and Lymphography. This was followed by a 2-year Research Fellowship at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital Research Laboratory, Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA, on “Mechanisms of Contrast Medium-Induced Renal Hemodynamics”, supported by a grant from the National Institute of Health.

He returned to the University of Rochester as a faculty member until 1989. This was followed by an appointment as Chair of the Department of Radiology at the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, Oregon from 1989-1991. Dr. Katzberg was then the Chair of the Department of Radiology at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, CA.

Dr. Katzberg had a strong connection with the Association of University Radiologists as his academic career developed, receiving the Resident’s Memorial Award in 1977 and 3 Stauffer Awards in the field of contrast medium research. He was elected President of the AUR in 1995.

In addition to expertise in CM research he also was a pioneer in the foundation of imaging of the temporomandibular joint. His contributions to academic research include 207 peer-reviewed articles, 5 text books and over 40 textbook chapters. He contributed 2 State of the Art review articles for Radiology on two completely different topics.

A continuing energy for research and fortuitous connection with Mayo Clinic colleagues, Jennifer and Bob McDonald, David Kallmes, and Erik Williamson, led to seminal development at the time of his death.