

**CHARLES C. C. O'MORCHOE, MD, PhD, DSc (1931-2011)  
TRIBUTE TO A LYMPHOLOGY PIONEER AND PRESIDENT**



Dr. Charles Christopher Creagh O'Morchoe, 12<sup>th</sup> President of the ISL from 1993-1995, died peacefully at his home in Poulsbo, Washington on April 18, 2011, surrounded by family and friends after a 14-year battle with prostate cancer. He was born in Quetta, India (Pakistan) on May 7, 1931, and married Patricia Jean O'Morchoe, MD on September 15, 1955, in Dublin, Ireland.

Dr. O'Morchoe received his undergraduate education at Dublin University, Ireland and obtained his medical degrees from Trinity College, Dublin University School of Medicine, Ireland and a postgraduate medical degree (MD) by thesis and oral examination in 1961. He earned his PhD (1968) and DSc (1981) from Dublin University. He trained in Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Halifax General Hospital in Halifax, England. He was then appointed as a Lecturer in Anatomy at the Dublin University School of Medicine (1957-61 and 1963-65), also as a Lecturer and later Associate Professor of Physiology (1966-68). He was a Visiting Lecturer in Physiology at

University of Maryland School of Medicine (1961-62) and Instructor in Anatomy at Harvard Medical School (1962-63). He served as Associate Professor, Professor, and subsequently Acting Chairman at the Department of Anatomy at University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore (1968-1974).

Charles served as a Consultant on Medical Education as Visiting Professor of Physiology for the World Health Organization with the S.M.S. Medical College in Jaipur, India (3 month appointments in both 1967 and 1971). He then served as Chairman of the Department of Anatomy at Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in Maywood, IL (1974-84). He subsequently became Regional Dean at University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign, as well as a Professor of Anatomical Sciences and of Surgery, until his retirement in 1998. At the time of his death, he was a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Medicine (Division of Oncology) at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Throughout his academic career, Dr. O'Morchoe maintained an active research program related to the study of renal lymphatic flow and its changes in various pathological and physiological conditions. In total, he authored over 182 papers, chapters and books, many of which were in conjunction with his wife Patricia Jean O'Morchoe, MD, who served on the ISL Executive Committee (1995-1997). In addition to his ISL Presidency (1993-1995), he also served as Chairman of the American Association of Anatomy and as President of the North American Society of Lymphology.

He was editor of six peer-reviewed journals including *Lymphology*. During his career, he received numerous honors and awards for excellence in teaching and research.

Beyond the academic environment, Charles enjoyed many other enriching activities and hobbies which brought him great joy including pleasure boating on many U.S. waterways, taking great care of his collection of classic cars (particularly Rolls-Royces), fine woodworking, working in his garden, and maintaining extensive stamp and coin collections.

After retiring in 1998, Dr. O'Morchoe moved with his wife to Poulsbo, Washington. Charles was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Patricia. He is survived by his brother, two sons, and his four grandchildren.

As described by his sons David and Charles in their Christmas 2011 family

newsletter, their father had a "way of looking at the funny and hopeful side of things" and "treated everyone with respect"... "During what turned out to be his last weekend, he spoke of former students and moved his arms as though he was creating one of his famous anatomy drawings on the board."

Memorial contributions can made to The Joly-O'Morchoe Exchange Fellowship Fund or the Patricia J and Charles CC O'Morchoe Fellowship in Leadership Skills Award Fund at The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. You may sign the online Guest Book for the family at: [www.cookfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.cookfamilyfuneralhome.com).

**Excerpted in part from *The Chicago Tribune*, May 1, 2011, and 2011 O'Morchoe Family Newsletter.**