

Jack Charles Geary

September 29, 1920 — February 18, 1992

Jack C. Geary, Professor Emeritus in the College of Veterinary Medicine, died at home in Ithaca on February 18, 1992 at the age of 71.

Born in Hornell, New York, he lived most of his life in New York State. Jack married Dorothy Gibson in 1943 and they have two sons, David of Ithaca and Richard who lives in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands with his wife Denise and their two daughters.

During World War II Jack served as an instructor pilot in the U. S. Army Air Corps and was honorably discharged a Captain in 1945.

Professor Geary received his veterinary training at Ohio State University, graduating in 1951. While a student he worked as an assistant and following graduation as an associate of Dr. J. H. Knapp, one of Ohio's outstanding veterinarians. Following this he came to Cornell University where he served as Director of the New York State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Dr. Geary had a deep and enthusiastic interest in radiation medicine; and following graduate studies in radiology at Cornell, he was appointed to the faculty as Assistant Professor of Radiology in the Department of Large Animal Medicine, Obstetrics and Surgery. He left Cornell in 1960 to serve as Associate Professor of Radiology at Kansas State University and, subsequently, a similar position at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama.

He returned to Cornell in 1966 as Associate Professor of Radiology and became a Full Professor on July 1, 1969. He retired in 1976, but returned to serve half-time as a faculty member from 1981-1983. Until one month before his death Dr. Geary served as an active consultant to individual practitioners and to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and the American Animal Hospital Association. His work was a major factor in reducing the incidence of hip dysplasia in dogs. He authored over 25 scientific papers on subjects related to radiology. Subsequent papers reflected his interest in linear tomography and imaging of spinal diseases, particularly traumatic injuries. Professor Geary was a meticulous worker who accumulated an extensive collection of radiographic slides that cover all subjects of veterinary radiology. These remain as a priceless teaching library for today's students.

Jack Geary was a keen, personable, experienced radiologist. He was an excellent teacher who liked students and was deeply interested in their welfare. He was a well-liked, cooperative team member with a ready wit, a broad smile and a willingness to be helpful to all.

Jack was a skilled craftsman who was admired by colleagues as a master technician-engineer in addition to his attributes as a professional radiologist. When the Section of Radiology was in its infancy, Jack as its head went beyond ordinary expectations of a faculty member by building, repairing and improvising until funds were available to select the state-of-the-art equipment he needed.

He was a talented artist, photographer, radio ham (WA2SYW), cabinet maker and inventor.

Professor Geary was elected to membership in Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Zeta honor societies. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Radiology and served as its president in 1971. He was also a member, and president of the American Veterinary Radiology Society and the Educators in Veterinary Radiologic Science. Reflecting wider interests, he was also an active member of the Southern Tier Veterinary Medical Society, the New York State Veterinary Medical Society and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Jack Geary was a pioneering radiologist who will be missed by his many friends and colleagues.

Nathan L. Dykes, Francis H. Fox, Robert W. Kirk