



## Dr. Gerd G. Maul

March 14, 1940 - August 23, 2010

Gerd G. Maul, Ph.D. of Wynnewood, PA, died on Mon. August 23, 2010 at the age of 70. He was the beloved husband of Ursula Maul and devoted father to Monika and Julius Maul. The family will receive guests on Thurs. evening Aug. 26th from 5-7pm in the Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, 30 E. Athens Ave., Ardmore, PA. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that contributions be made in Dr. Maul's memory to Cardiovascular Research, c/o Lankenau Hospital Foundation, 100 E. Lancaster Ave. Wynnewood, PA 19096

WISTAR INSTITUTE OBITUARY:[http://www.wistar.org/news\\_info/pressreleases/pr\\_08.24.10.htm](http://www.wistar.org/news_info/pressreleases/pr_08.24.10.htm)

# Tribute Wall



“ My first contact with Gerd was in the early 1990s, when completely unexpectedly I received in the post a plain brown envelope filled with microscopy images. Gerd had found that the domains he named ND10 were affected by stress, so he thought they might be affected by viruses, then he'd found that they were indeed greatly affected by HSV-1. Through a process of deduction and elimination he had identified ICP0 as a likely candidate for the HSV protein that was responsible for disrupting ND10, and his letter was an invitation to collaborate. Thus started a very successful and enjoyable, and for me highly educational, journey into Gerd's world of cell biology and imagery.

*In the early years there was little appreciation in the field at large of the potential significance of Gerd's observations. Beautiful and striking though they were, there was no background and no hard biochemistry to back up what ND10 were, how they were affected by viruses, and what the significance might be. In consequence, publication was often a difficult and drawn out procedure. But Gerd persevered, adding more original and highly intriguing observations.*

*This period in this nascent field, in the mid-1990s, is perhaps well illustrated by the fate of one paper. Using in situ hybridisation, Gerd had found that the parental genomes of HSV were frequently associated with ND10 prior to their disruption by ICP0. Gerd was understandably highly excited. Together we wrote a paper, sent first to Nature. The reviews came from people who clearly had no inkling of the potential importance. We repeated this process down the spectrum of perceived journal importance until we arrived at Virology. I remember the comment of one perceptive reviewer: 'If this is as important as I suspect it is, I wonder why the authors have chosen to publish it in Virology'. Gerd and this particular reviewer were right – Gerd's observation is not just important, it is probably fundamental to how cells respond to incoming DNA virus genomes.*

*I owe a great deal to Gerd. He provided me with a timely stimulus to my career, and introduced me to a fascinating field which has been*

*the core of my research ever since. He patiently taught me about many aspects of microscopy and cell biology, and he also provided an excellent example of how to do science: careful observation is essential, and in many cases precedes hypothesis. Which comes down to a prime justification for doing research in the first place: That looks really interesting! I wonder why that happens?*

*Others will comment on how Gerd viewed the parallels between art and science, but perhaps I can add that Gerd once said to me 'I've never regarded this [meaning being a scientist] as a job'. To him the exploration of nature was a joy and a privilege, despite all the difficulties in obtaining funding and the inevitable disappointments that are part and parcel of the work.*

*As Gerd's work on ND10 gained general acceptance and the potential importance more widely recognised, the ND10 field expanded to impinge on a wide range of viruses and research areas. He can clearly and justifiably be described as the father of a substantial field of research which remains a topical and important subject. I believe that the field's importance will grow further in the coming years as we understand more about mechanism and function, and that the concepts behind Gerd's original observations will extend far beyond the bounds of virology. He leaves a lasting scientific legacy.##imported-begin##Roger Everett##imported-end##*

---

September 01, 2010 at 11:54 AM



“ Dear Ursula, I am thinking of you as you adjust to the suddenness of Gerd's passing. He was such a vibrant life force. He was a wonderful colleague, treasured by me and others for stimulating discussions and always a NEW way of looking at things. His approaches were unique and he opened up a new way of seeing the world for many of us. He will be missed. He sent me a copy of "Information Traces" and it hangs in my office. I have been staring at it since I heard the news. I also fondly remember his collection of women! Words cannot express how this saddens me. Much love,  
Sandy###imported-begin###Sandy Weller###imported-end##

---

August 27, 2010 at 06:24 PM



“ Dear Ursula and family,

*I am so saddened to hear of Gerd's sudden death. I can hardly imagine how much a loss you all feel. My heart goes out to you and I am hoping to rearrange my schedule to see you on the 26th.*

*I will always remember Gerd's mirth, joy and easy intelligence. I know he will be missed by so many of us who knew him.*

*With all my heart felt love and support,  
Joe###imported-begin###Dr. Joseph Price###imported-end##*

---

August 26, 2010 at 06:08 PM



“ Dear Ursula, Monika, & Julius: We send you our deepest condolences. You are all in our thoughts. Love, Jennifer, Jim and Caroline###imported-begin###Jennifer Savoie###imported-end##

---

August 26, 2010 at 10:12 AM



“ I was blessed to know Dr. Maul for the past 24 years. He was always kind, and had a smile on his face. I will miss him dearly. To the family, May God bless you and keep you in his arms.##imported-begin##james starnes##imported-end##

---

August 26, 2010 at 05:45 AM



“ Ursula, Monika & Julius: Michael and I are so sorry to hear about Gerd. You are all in our thoughts.##imported-begin##Chris Higgins##imported-end##

---

August 25, 2010 at 01:25 PM



“ Dear Ursula, Monika, & Julius,

*Our hearts go out to you at this time of sudden loss. Please know we are here to help you now and in the difficult days ahead.*

*God Bless all of you and Gerd.*

*Sincerely,*

*Bruce, Diana, Alexandra and Sarah Kozak##imported-begin##Diana L.Kozak##imported-end##*

---

August 25, 2010 at 09:33 AM



“ Jean-Marc joins me in sending our most heartfelt condolences for your tragic loss. We are so sorry that Gerd's life had to end so suddenly. I wish I could come to the funeral home but I'm the babysitter for Pearl and Sasha. I hope to see you soon so I can tell you in person how much we are thinking of you,##imported-begin##Sandy Choukroun##imported-end##

---

August 24, 2010 at 05:55 PM