MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS PAUL PETER CARBONE

Paul Peter Carbone, M.D., MACP, D. Sc. Hon., professor of medicine emeritus, director emeritus of the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center, associate dean for program planning was born in White Plains, New York on May 2, 1931. He died suddenly of a heart attack on February 22, 2002 at the age of 70.

In 1971, Dr. Carbone founded the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG), which he built into a premier national clinical trials organization, conducting clinical trials over 300 hospitals and medical schools. He served as the elected chairman of ECOG for 20 years. With ECOG, he pioneered research on a number of fronts and provided sustained leadership at the international level. He also served as chairman of the Breast Cancer Task Force and was influential in directing research policy, and instrumental in the initial studies of successful adjuvant chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Dr. Carbone also was the managing director of the nonprofit organization Frontier Science and Technology Research Foundation for over 20 years. The foundation is currently engaged in large scale national and international clinical trials, which have direct impact upon the treatment of thousands of cancer and AIDS patients in several hundred medical institutions.

In 1976, Dr. Carbone retired from the Public Health Service and joined the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, home to one of the first National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers, as the head of Medical Oncology. He became chair of the Department of Human Oncology in 1977 and director of its Comprehensive Cancer Center from 1978 to 1997.

He served as president of two of the most prestigious cancer research societies in the USA: the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). Dr. Carbone was proud to have served on the first certifying committee of the American Board of Internal Medicine for Medical Oncology where he helped write the first qualifying exam and define the national standards for medical oncology.

In addition to the Lasker Award, his international awards include the Hilda and Richard Rosenthal Award of the American Association of Cancer Research, Medal of Honor for Clinical Research from the American Cancer Society, Distinguished Service Award for Scientific Achievement for the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Mastership in the American College of Physicians, and the Health Medal of the First Order, Executive Yuan, Republic of China. In 2000, he was awarded the Folkert O. Belzer Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding and enduring contributions to academic medicine.

Dr. Carbone was the editor-in-chief of Oncology, the international journal of cancer and was on the editorial board of several journals, including the Journal of Clinical Oncology, Cancer Research, and the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology and Physics. Dr. Carbone published more than 300 scientific papers and 86 book chapters.

He received his medical degree from Albany Medical College in 1956, and served his internship and residency at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospitals in Baltimore and San Francisco. Dr. Carbone began his career at the National Cancer Institute in 1960 where he became head of its Medicine Branch. While he was there, he achieved recognition for his work in the treatment and cure of Hodgkin’s disease, development of new chemotherapy drugs, and adjuvant treatment of breast cancer. For this achievement, he shared the Lasker Prize for Medicine in 1972.

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Known throughout the world as an outstanding scientist, clinician, teacher and administrator, Dr. Carbone was most successful at the bedside of the patients who needed and loved him. Dr. Carbone wrote in 1999, “Every day, as I see patients in my clinic, I see the miracle of hope unfold for those who, only a short time ago, would have had none...Research is not about laboratories and test tubes. For me, it has a human face.”

Paul Carbone will be missed as husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, physician, mentor and as one of the world’s leading cancer researchers. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and seven children.

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