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In Memoriam:
Remembering Professor Roger Nordmann

May 24, 1926–January 24, 2014

ON JANUARY 24, 2014, Professor Roger Nordmann suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. Roger was a prominent leader in our field, an M.D., Ph.D. who was a member of the French Academy of Medicine since 1993, emeritus professor of the Université Paris Descartes (Faculty of Medicine Paris–West), and an officer of both the National Order of the Legion of Honor and the Order of Academic Palms. He was widely known for his charm, warmth, and leadership in the alcohol academic community in Europe, where he served as the founding president of the European Society of Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (ESBRA).



Roger Nordmann was born in Strasbourg, France, on May 24, 1926. He graduated from the Pasteur Institute in 1950, earned his doctor of medicine from the University of Paris in 1954, and earned his doctor of science degree from that university in 1958. Roger served as head of the laboratory at the Faculty of Medicine of Paris from 1957 to 1962 and became a research fellow in the department of biochemistry at University College, London, studying under Professor Charles Dent in 1959. From 1962 to 1965, Roger was the professor of medical biochemistry at the National School of Medicine and Pharmacy of Poitiers. Subsequently, from 1965 to 1995, he was the professor of medical biochemistry at the Université Paris Descartes (the Faculty of Medicine Paris–West), after which he served as a professor emeritus.

His science and his 331 publications are perhaps best represented by his basic research on alcohol and alcoholism. Roger's pioneering efforts included early studies of the in-

volvement of free radicals in the metabolism and toxicity of alcohol in the liver, myocardium, and central nervous system and evaluating approaches to prevent alcohol-related damage related to oxidative stress linked to these mechanisms.

Throughout his career, he dedicated his time to help alcohol research and education thrive on an international level. Roger took part in the founding of the French Society of Alcoholism in 1978 and served as a member of their board of directors until 2002. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (ISBRA) from 1984 to 1990, becoming the first president of the European Society (ESBRA) in 1987. He has been a member of the

editorial boards for *Addiction Biology*, and *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, as well as for *Alcohol and Alcoholism*.

On a personal note, Roger became a friend in the 1980s and was a colleague I looked forward to seeing at international alcoholism meetings. He always had time to talk and greeted his many friends with a warm smile and an open mind. He taught us all about how basic and clinical research complement each other and about the importance of working as a group to further our mutual goals to enhance alcohol education and treatment. He will be sorely missed.

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