

DR. EDWIN H. BEACHEY

1944 - 1989

Dr. Edwin H. Beachey, husband of the former Carol Teuscher and son-in-law of Mrs. Harry Teuscher of Pigeon, died of cancer on Oct. 27, 1989 at the age of 55 in Memphis, Tenn.

At the time of his death, Dr. Beachey was Professor of Medicine and Microbiology and Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis and Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development at the Memphis Veterans Administration Medical Center. Dr. Beachey was widely recognized for his research to find a vaccine against the streptococcal infections that cause rheumatic fever. His 23-year search led him to become one of the world's foremost scholars of bacterial pathogenesis, making major scientific contributions to the field of infectious diseases and immunity.

Born in Arthur, Ill., Dr. Beachey grew up on an Amish farm, earned his B.S. in chemistry at Goshen College, followed by his M.D. degree from Northwestern University Medical School in 1962. As a sophomore there, he was struck with rheumatic fever, and came under the care of Dr. Gene Stollerman, a leading streptococcal researcher, who became his research partner in Memphis, where they began what was to become an internationally recognized center for the study of streptococcus and rheumatic fever.

On the day of his death, Dr. Beachey was awarded the prestigious William S. Middleton Award, the VA's highest honor given nationwide for medical research. Dr. Beachey's work yielded over 200 publications, numerous books and book chapters, a number of patents, attracted over \$600,000 annually in federal research support alone and brought him a host of scientific honors and awards. He was also widely sought as a visiting professor at universities, as well as a speaker and session chairman at symposiums around the world.

Funeral services were held Oct. 30 at Idlewild Presbyterian Church in Memphis, with burial in Memphis Memorial Park. In addition to his wife of 32 years, Carol, he is survived by two daughters, Anne, of Los Angeles and Jennifer, of San Francisco; his father and stepmother, Emory and Louise Beachey of Sarasota, Fla.

