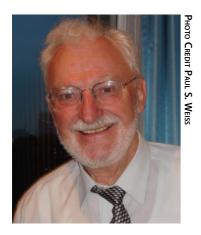# Dr. Heinrich Rohrer (1933−2013), Founding Father of Nanotechnology

We were sad to learn that our field lost its founder, when our friend and champion Dr. Heinrich Rohrer passed on last month. Heine was always a positive force, encouraging young nanoscientists wherever he went. He set the friendly and collaborative tone for the fields of nanoscience and nanotechnology based both on curiosity in searching unexplored nanoscale worlds for new phenomena and opportunities and also on addressing critical scientific and technological problems with the "eyes" that he gave us.

For our very first issue of *ACS Nano*, I sat down for a Conversation with him at the Palace Hotel in Tokyo, where we were both attending a summit meeting on global education. We talked about the motivations for and invention of the scanning tunneling microscope (STM), but also about what it is like to move into a new field and a new scientific community.[1]

PHOTO CREDIT PAUL S. WEISS

Dr. Heinrich Rohrer (1933−2013) at the Palace Hotel in Tokyo, Japan, in 2007.

Many years earlier, I first met Heine when I had just arrived at IBM (Almaden Research Center, 1988) as a postdoctoral fellow to start working in nanoscience with a new ultrastable STM that we were putting together there. He could not have been more encouraging and positive, as he was in every one of the many times I saw him in the subsequent years. His visits to our laboratory would buoy the spirits and enthusiasm of students and postdocs for years to follow. We will greatly miss his thoughtfulness, kindness, and insight.

In an upcoming issue, we will publish a more detailed tribute, put together by his friends and colleagues. In the meantime, his family, colleagues, and friends have our deepest sympathy for their and our loss.

Paul S. Weiss
Editor-in-Chief

REFERENCES AND NOTES

1. Weiss, P. S. A Conversation with Dr. Heinrich Rohrer: STM Co-inventor and One of the Founding Fathers of Nanoscience. *ACS Nano* **2007**, *1*, 3−5.