

OBITUARY

Anthony Longhetti, January 28, 1928–June 11, 2001

Past president and distinguished fellow Anthony Longhetti died on June 11, 2001 of acute pancreatitis that developed following gall bladder surgery in January. For those who remember Tony, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences without his humor and grace, will never be quite the same.

Tony Longhetti was born in Pittsburg, California and attended high school in northern California. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in technical criminology studying under Professor Paul L. Kirk. Years later, he completed his MPA from California State University, San Bernardino.

Following military service with the United States Army CID Laboratory in Georgia (1951–1953), he worked at the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Laboratory in Minneapolis (1954–1957). In 1957 he returned to California to take a new position at the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Laboratory to become the founder and laboratory director of the crime lab. He spent 32 years with the department and rose to the rank of deputy chief. Following Tony's retirement from the sheriff's department in 1989, he joined the faculty of the Criminal Justice Department, California State University, Los Angeles where he served as Associate Professor/Director of the master's degree program in criminalistics until his death.

Tony joined the Academy early in his professional career and served as Criminalistics Section Secretary (1961–1962) and Chairman (1962–1963). He continued his service culminating in being

the President (1982–1983). Tony received the Criminalistics Section Paul L. Kirk Award in 1989 and in 1993 was made a distinguished fellow. He served on the *Journal of Forensic Science* Editorial Board and as Book Review Editor.

Tony's work in forensic science extended well beyond the Academy. He was an active member of the California Association of Criminalists and served twice as the President (1963–1964 and 1971–1972). Tony was also very active in the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) and chaired a committee from which the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors—Laboratory Accreditation Board, ASCLD/LAB, was founded, later serving on the ASCLD/LAB board of directors and as its Chairman.

Under his leadership, the Criminalistics graduate program at California State University, Los Angeles, flourished and scores of students received their introduction to forensic science. Under Tony's mentorship, many of his former students work in crime laboratories in California and beyond, and are part of the Tony Longhetti's legacy.

Tony is survived by his wife of 50 years, Alma, children Terry and Tom, grandchildren Kandice, Michael, and Paul. We extend our most sincere condolences to the family and mourn the loss of a wonderful friend and leader.

Barry A. J. Fisher
Director, Scientific Services Bureau
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department