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IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE E. HAM July 27, 1921–1994

I am sorry to announce the death of Dr. George E. Ham, the original editor of the *Journal of Macromolecular Science*. He served as editor for 21 years and as a respected reviewer since his retirement from the *Journal*. On behalf of our publisher, Marcel Dekker, and his staff, and the members of the Editorial Board of the *Journal*, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Dr. Ham's wife and family.

Dr. Ham was born in Goldsboro, North Carolina, on July 27, 1921. He received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina and a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Indiana University. Dr. Ham worked extensively with Shell Development Co., Monsanto, and Chemstrand (later fully acquired by Monsanto). His work resulted in the development of numerous novel polymers and copolymers based on acrylonitrile, styrene, vinyl chloride, and vinyl acetate, as well as polyesters and nylons, as molding materials and fibers. He then joined J. T. Baker Chemical Co. as Director of Research. He also became Technical Director for the Plastics Division of Spencer Chemical Co., (later Gulf Oil) in Kansas City and later was named Associate Director of Research in the Central Research Department for polymer research. In 1966 he joined Geigy Chemical Corporation as Director of Chemical Products Research. Since March 1971, Dr. Ham had been a consultant to the polymer and chemical industries.

Dr. Ham's research dealt with the polymerization and copolymerization of vinyl monomers and with polycondensation reactions, as well as the fabrication, properties, and performance of the resulting polymers, including the action of heat and light. He was the author of 130 U.S. patents and 70 publications.

Dr. Ham was a member of numerous professional societies, including the Association of Research Directors, New York Academy of Sciences, American Chemical Society, Society of Plastics Engineers, Society of Chemical Industry, and Alpha Chi Sigma, and the honorary societies of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and Phi Lambda Upsilon. Dr. Ham authored several books including *Copolymerization* (John Wiley & Sons) and *Vinyl Polymerization Mechanism I and II* (Marcel Dekker, Inc.) and was editor of the Macromolecular Chemistry Series for Marcel Dekker, Inc.

Russell A. Gaudiana
Editor