

**Professor  
Robert H. Schuler  
(1926-2017)**



Robert H(ugo) Schuler was born in Buffalo, NY on January 4, 1926. He received his B.Sc. diploma in chemistry from Canisius College (Buffalo, NY) in 1946 and his Ph.D. degree in physical chemistry from the University of Notre Dame, IN in 1949 under the supervision of William Henry Hamill. In 1949–1953 he was an Assistant Professor of Chemistry in Canisius College. From 1953 to 1956 he went from an Associate Chemist to Chemist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, NY. From 1956 to 1976 he served as Director of the Radiation Research Laboratories in the Mellon Institute of Science at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. During the latter part of that period he was contemporaneously Professor of Chemistry in the same University from 1967 to 1976. In 1976 he accepted the position of Director of Notre Dame Radiation Laboratory (NDRL), and in the same year he became Professor of Chemistry at the University of Notre Dame. Later in 1986 he became the Zahm Professor of Radiation Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Notre Dame. During that period several scientists from the Polish research and academic institutions were appointed in the NDRL as post-doctoral researchers or visiting scholars. After his retirement in 1995 he received the status of Active Emeritus at the Notre Dame Radiation Laboratory. He served as President of Radiation Research Society in 1975–1976 and was also a member of the Editorial Board of the “International Journal of Radiation Physics and Chemistry” and “Nukleonika”.

He passed away at his home in Granger IN on November 13, 2017, in his 92-th year. He is survived by his three daughters, two sons and 11 grandchildren.

Robert Schuler’s research had a substantial impact in a variety of scientific fields. Among others, his research was concerned with obtaining a better understanding of the behavior and reactivity of radicals. He concentrated on the kinetics of ionic reactions in the radiolysis of hydrocarbons, chemical dosimetry of ionizing radiation, use of iodine in free radical detection, LET effects in radiation chemistry, electron spin resonance and resonance Raman spectra of radiation produced radicals, and application of gas and liquid chromatographic methods to studies of radiation chemical and photochemical mechanisms. He published over 250 scientific papers, which received over 9500 citations. In 1992, he was awarded the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Medal by the Polish Radiation Research Society for his contribution to radiation chemistry. He participated in several PULS conferences organized by the community of Polish radiation chemists. With his passing, the radiation chemistry community has lost a highly respected scientist, who laid the foundations of the contemporary radiation chemistry.

Krzysztof Bobrowski  
*Institute of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology*