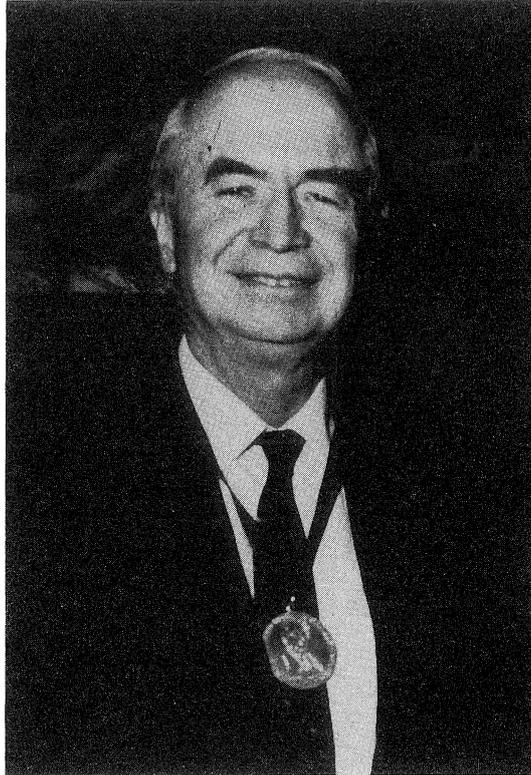




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IN MEMORIAM

HELLMUT HARTERT

1918-1993

Professor Dr. med. Hellmut Hartert died of a kidney carcinoma in his 75th year in Kaiserslautern (Germany) on September 17, 1993. Mourning for him are his wife Elisabeth, children and grand-children, as well as a great community of friends, patients, clinicians and scientists of many fields in many countries, indeed, all over the world.

Hellmut Hartert was born on September 1st, 1918 in Tübingen (Germany), where his father worked as a professor of surgery. He commenced his studies in medicine and physics in Munich in 1939, and, seriously wounded as a soldier, continued to study in Prague, Freiburg, Vienna, Berlin and Breslau. He graduated as Dr. med. in Berlin in 1944. From 1945 onwards, he received his training in internal medicine from Siebeck, Victor von Weizsäcker, and Matthes at the Medical University Clinic in Heidelberg. That was also where he habilitated in internal medicine (1954) and became professor in 1959. In 1962, he was appointed head physician at the Medical Clinic of the Municipal Hospital in Kaiserslautern and was professor at the Saarland University from 1968. He was co-founder of the University of Kaiserslautern and there he also taught biomedical technique in 1976. From 1977, when the clinic of Kaiserslautern became a teaching hospital of the University of Mainz, he was habilitated in Mainz. After his retirement in 1983, he started a practice for internal medicine with full medical service until shortly before his illness.

1961 he acted as visiting professor at Queens University Kingston, Canada, and in 1969 at the Jikei University, Tokyo.

His scientific successes and inventions are known all over the world. The first milestone was thrombelastography, published in 'Klinische Wochenschrift' in 1948: "Blutgerinnungsstudien mit der Thrombelastographie, einem neuen Untersuchungsverfahren". With this technique he was able to measure quantitatively the different phases of blood coagulation, functionally separated for the first time. In 1972, the Rheo-Simulator followed, with which the effect of Factor XIII could be registered extremely sensitively, as demonstrated at the First International Congress on Biorheology in Lyon, France. Next to come was Resonance-Thrombography, introduced for the first time at the satellite-meeting of the 4. International Congress on Biorheology 1981 in Osaka and comprehensively described in CLINICAL HEMORHEOLOGY as particularly suited for the recording of fibrin-elasticity.

In addition to these and other specific inventions in the fields of blood coagulation and hemorheology, Hellmut Hartert has distinguished himself as an inventor in various other fields. Some readers might know the Hartert-Stethoscope, which makes binauricular-stereologic auscultation possible. Hellmut Hartert's interests went far beyond medicine. All who have ever been privileged to have been his guest, would acknowledge his creative talent in house-building and as interior decorator. He was also a trained precision mechanic, well versed in astronomy, interested in weapons, and an expert in stereophonic loudspeaker-technique.

We cherish Hellmut Hartert as an active stimulator at many scientific associations. He was one of the founders of the German association for blood coagulation research (1956) and acted twice as its president. At the occasion of a symposium on hemorheology held at the 4. International Congress for Rheology

in Providence, Rhode Island (1963), he initiated the idea of organizing a society for biorheology. This society was founded afterwards in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1966 and he presided over its second congress in Heidelberg in 1969. He also established a research team 'Medicine-Science-Engineering' at the University of Kaiserslautern in 1975 and founded, together with Albrecht Ehrly, the German Society for Clinical Microcirculation and Haemorheology (1979).

Hellmut Hartert was active as an editor and co-editor of a great number of scientific journals, in particular of BIORHEOLOGY (from 1963), THROMBOSIS RESEARCH (1965-1978), and CLINICAL HEMORHEOLOGY from its very beginning in 1981 until 1991. His publication list comprises more than 300 titles. His supreme scientific honour was the Poiseuille Gold Medal, bestowed to him at the 5. International Congress of Biorheology in Baden-Baden (Germany) in 1983.

Hellmut Hartert was a distinguished character, a warm-hearted doctor, and an outstanding physician; educated, open-minded, a conscientious scientific worker, an inventor rich in ideas, and a charming host. The science of clinical hemorheology has lost one of its pioneers and a brilliant brain.

Siegfried Witte