

## Gary Grant (1941-2011)

Gary G. Grant was born in Toronto, Canada, on 18 June 1941, and attended the University of Western Ontario in London to study Zoology. He often mentioned that his love of entomology started during his undergraduate years. Apart of his excellent scholastic abilities, Gary was an accomplished athlete and joined the University of Western Ontario football team, the Mustangs, as a running back. He graduated in 1965 with Honours and continued his studies in Entomology at the same university, receiving his MSc in 1967. He then went to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and obtained his PhD in 1970, specializing in semiochemicals. Following a 2-year period of postdoctoral training at the Department of Entomology, University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, he returned to Canada in 1972 to take up a position as a research scientist at the renowned Insect Pathology Research Institute in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Gary was charged with establishing a pheromone laboratory, hiring the needed personnel and building a research programme that has remained to the present day as one of the main research thrusts of the Canadian Forest Service in Canada.



Gary was a gifted writer, an excellent wordsmith and a prolific publisher who collaborated with many scientists both within the research centre in Sault Ste. Marie and outside, including many international scientists. He was often invited to deliver presentations at various international scientific meetings and symposia, as well as to write authoritative chapters and reviews in his area of specialty. The manuscripts he wrote have always been well polished and a joy to read. His innovative approach to research also resulted in at least two patents on the composition of chemicals to manipulate the behaviour of the nun moth and on attracting and controlling the Douglas fir tussock moth.

Gary was invited twice by the United States Department of Agriculture in Gainesville, Florida, to be a visiting scientist at the research laboratory on Insects Affecting Man and Animals. He spent 3 months each time conducting basic research as well as field applications of pheromones in collaboration with resident scientists. In 1982, he decided to take a 1-year sabbatical leave to carry out research at the Insect Chemical Ecology Unit of the Departments of Entomology and Chemistry at the University of Southampton, England. He had another, shorter sabbatical at the Department of Entomology at Wageningen Agricultural University, The Netherlands. After this last sabbatical, a few scientists from The Netherlands visited Gary's laboratory in Sault Ste. Marie. His international collaborations culminated in being invited to be an Adjunct Professor at Nanjing Forestry University in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Gary spent time in Nanjing lecturing to and sharing his experiences with senior undergraduates, postgraduate students and scientists.

Gary served as an Associate Editor of the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Ontario (1973-1976) and of the *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* (1990-1993). He was also a Canadian Delegate at the Food and Agricultural Organization (UN) North American Forestry Commission in 1990. Clearly, Gary had a most enviable career in science.

Sadly, after a brief encounter with pancreatic cancer, he succumbed to the disease and passed away on New Year's Day of 2011, aged 69. His family, including the grandchildren he loved so much, friends and Canadian colleagues will miss Gary greatly. His international colleagues in many countries where he conducted research and lectured, such as Chile, PRC, the Czech Republic, England, The Netherlands, and the USA, will also miss him immensely. The field of semiochemicals

has lost a valuable and an innovative investigator and will miss his sharp and enquiring mind, constructive criticism and valuable suggestions. All your friends and colleagues at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre will miss seeing you everyday, your quick wit, sense of humour and your counsel.

Gary, it has been a pleasure and a privilege.

– Basil M. Arif  
Molecular Virologist  
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