

In memory of Jack Diamond, M.D. Ph.D.

A prominent neuroscientist, Dr. Jack Diamond died at the Joseph Brant Hospital in Burlington on August 19, 2014 in his 86th year. Jack was an honorary member of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience, Scientific Director Emeritus of the Alzheimer Society of Canada and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University. Jack was born in Manchester, (UK) and got his medical and science degrees from the University College London.

Jack built a lively department focusing on developmental neurobiology, at McMaster University and was an enthusiastic participant in the Centers of Excellence for Neurosciences in Canada.

His own research, which was imaginative and of the highest quality, was concerned with regeneration and disorders of

peripheral nerve; later he also studied risk factors for the development of Alzheimer's disease. Jack wanted to understand beneficial and detrimental roles of collateral sprouting, "a poetry of nerve growth".

After reaching retirement age at McMaster, Jack served for several years as Associate Director for Scientific Affairs at the Montreal Neurological Institute and was a valuable contributor to the Society for Neuroscience, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, the ALS Society of Canada and the Spinal Cord Society.

One of the Jack's best qualities was the ability to give stimulating and amusing lectures; as a raconteur, Jack could hold an audience spellbound. His sonorous voice resonated beyond the walls of the lecture rooms. He was also a man of great enthusiasms; he loved nature, hiking, running, playing piano and reading detective stories.

"His boundless enthusiasm and excitement for discovery has motivated and encouraged a small army of investigators, and in more recent years I gained an added appreciation for his flair for making science understandable and relevant to the public. He was one-of-a-kind, will be sadly missed, but long-remembered." -Mark Bisby, Consultant, former Vice-President of Research for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Jack Diamond will be missed by his family, friends, students and neuroscientists across Canada and worldwide.