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Obituary



Robert Marshall Gardner

The Journal of Microbiological Methods lost the talents of a very special editor with the premature death of Robert Marshall Gardner. Bob initiated his love affair into the arcane world of the rumen fermentations with a PhD from Milton Allison and post-doctoral research with Marvin Bryant. He then helped develop a biotechnology program at Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport, Tennessee. Bob had a view of microbial communities and insights that were unique and powerful. To be around him was to share his infectious enthusiasm and his ideas for new experiments or processes. He enriched the lives of all who had contact with him and we miss not only his comprehensive understanding but his gentle kindness in the respect he had for all living beings. Every contact I had with Bob Gardner enriched my life; I miss a good and true friend.