

Morton D. Maser In Memoriam

Morton D. Maser died suddenly on March 18, 1995 at age 60. Mort was widely known among microscopists through his longtime participation in the (Electron) Microscopy Society of America, the New England Society for Electron Microscopy, and through the many "short courses" in microscopy and microscopy related techniques that he organized and taught beginning in 1964. At the time of his death he was President of Woods Hole Educational Associates (WHEA) and Executive Secretary of both MSA and the Histochemical Society.

Mort graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with honors in Zoology and obtained a Ph.D. in Biophysics from the University of Pittsburgh in 1962. His thesis research, with Robert V. Rice in the Mellon Institute, was on the structure of collagen. His life-long involvement with electron microscopes and the (E)MSA began during his graduate student days. In 1962 he joined the laboratory of Keith Porter at Harvard University as research associate and then lecturer. He subsequently held academic appointments at SUNY Buffalo, Northeastern University, and Creighton University before becoming, in 1977, Assistant Director of Educational and Research Services at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. Finding Woods Hole a congenial milieu, Mort became a permanent resident by establishing his own company there in 1982. It is probably not coincidental that the company acronym WHEA is pronounced WHEE! WHEA initially focused on training, and expert consultation in the imaging and analytical sciences, but in the last few years, management services for scientific societies has become the major activity. Mort's scientific training, organizational talent, and thoughtful approach made his advice and guidance in the management of MSA and the Histochemical Society especially valuable. To honor his dedicated and unique service to MSA,



MSA's Distinguished Service Award will be named for him.

In addition to numerous and varied professional activities, Mort enjoyed and contributed to the Woods Hole-Falmouth community. There is no doubt that his favorite recreation was spending time with his grandson, Benjamin, but he also found time to read for the blind, referee local basketball and soccer games, and act in productions of the local theater group. He was a major force in the creation of a community cable TV station, serving as President of Falmouth Community TV and as Chair of the Falmouth Cable Advisory Commission.

Mort will be greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues. He is survived by his wife, Naomi, daughter Jill Maser of Philadelphia, son Larry and grandson, Benjamin both of Forestdale, MA. His family has established the Morton D. Maser Scholarship Fund in his memory. Contributions may be sent to Larry Maser, PO Box EM, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

Front Cover Image SEM Photograph of Marine Tardigrade (*Stygarctus*) ... at approximately 4,000X

Specimen gathered by Dr. Robert Higgins, Smithsonian Institute (Retired).

Then imaged on an ETEC SEM at 5 kV using the SEM Wideband Multi-Detector Color Synthesizer (Designed, built and patented by David Scharf).

Then acquired digitally at 2,048 X 1,536 pixels directly into a Macintosh Power PC as a TIFF file, using Digital Micrograph software and Digiscan hardware.

Then output to a CELCO film recorder, using Ektachrome 100+ film, to produce a 4x5 transparency.

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Don Grimes, Editor

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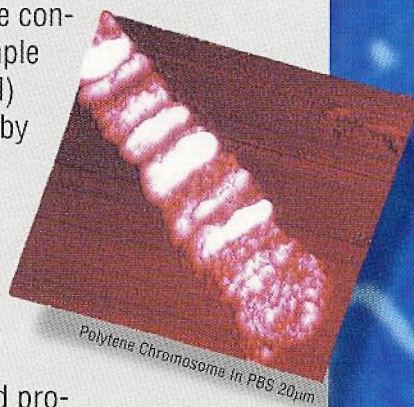
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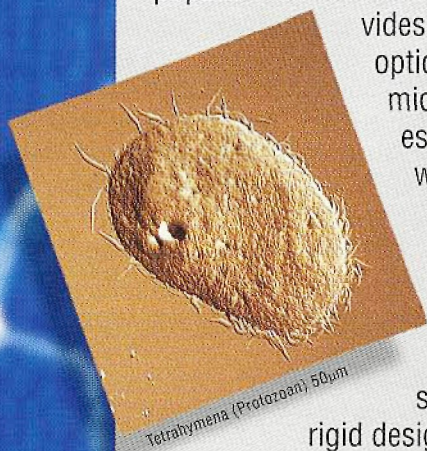
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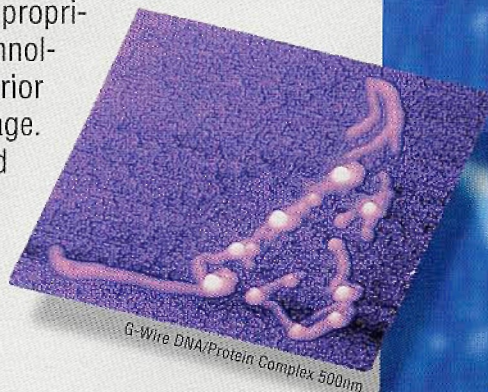
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