In Memoriam: Jack A. Vernon, PhD, Professor Emeritus Otolaryngology, Oregon Health Sciences University; Research Psychologist; Cofounder American Tinnitus Association and Mary B. Meikle, PhD, Professor Emeritus Otolaryngology, Oregon Health Sciences University; Cofounder American Tinnitus Association.

It is with a profound sense of loss that our SUNY Downstate tinnitus team belatedly learned of the passing of our teachers, mentors, and colleagues, Jack A. Vernon and Mary B. Meikle.

Our families and we extend our sincerest condolences to their families at this time of loss. All of us grieve the passing of these two special people who were able to gain worldwide attention for the symptom of tinnitus, which many of us didn’t take seriously until we met Jack and Mary.

Jack was a visionary who, by his acts of friendship and humanity, was able to establish and maintain a team of friends and colleagues in Portland dedicated to developing and advancing worldwide a science of tinnitus. He shall be remembered as the father of the modern science of tinnitus and the founder of a discipline dedicated to this affliction, which some call tinnitusology.

Mary, with her smile and gentle manner, was dedicated to Jack and his vision for tinnitus. Her contributions for the establishment of a baseline for measuring tinnitus and its treatment outcomes are a significant contribution to the otologic and audiological literature.

Together with their family, friends, and colleagues, we celebrate remembrances of the past, of friendship and good times, and the emergence of a science of tinnitus that began with the dedication and vision of Jack and Mary.

Well done, Jack and Mary. Rest easy.

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