

## Obituary

### Lester Warner Lowe

Associate Editor of *International Orthopaedics*

Lester Warner Lowe, the Associate English Editor of *International Orthopaedics* was killed in a mountaineering accident in Switzerland on the 6th of May 1982.

Born in 1932, he studied at Leeds University where he won the McGill prize for surgery when he qualified in 1956. His training in orthopaedic surgery took place in Great Britain, mainly at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, and in 1969, he was appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Northwick Park Hospital and Clinical Research Centre near London.

Lester Lowe has been an outstanding figure in his generation of British orthopaedic surgeons. He was a superb operative surgeon and a splendid teacher, not only in his own country, but all over the world where he was so often invited to courses, conferences or to present the results of his own researches. But, above all, Lester Lowe was a marvellous personality, full of humanity, invariably greeting his friends with a broad smile and a warm handshake.

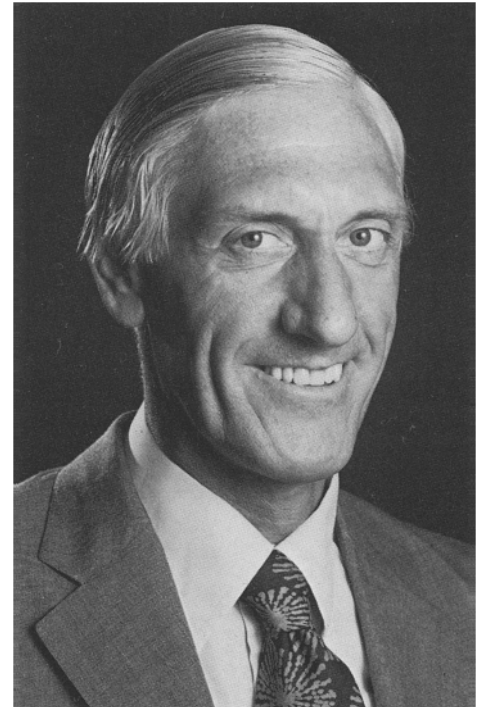
Besides his human and professional qualities, Lester Lowe possessed considerable literary talent which allowed him to express clearly in his splendid and precise English any problem of the basic or clinical sciences. This ability had been recognized by membership of the Editorial Board of the British volume of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*. He was also secretary of the Orthopaedic Travelling Association at the time of his death.

When the SICOT decided, in its Copenhagen Congress (1975), to produce a journal, Lester was appointed Associate Editor, responsible for the English language part of *International Orthopaedics*, comprising more than 80% of the journal. With his British colleagues, he overcame the difficult problems involved in producing an English language publication from material mostly submitted by writers for whom English was not their mother tongue, and the successful establishment of the SICOT journal is greatly due to his efforts. His close involvement with SICOT led to membership of the committee responsible for the organization of the 1984 meeting in London, and his death is particularly felt by those concerned with this congress. SICOT, and especially the Editorial Board of *International Orthopaedics*, owes an immeasurable debt to him.

Lester Lowe was an enthusiastic lover of the Alps. He was a fine climber, walker and skier and was a regular visitor to the "Haute Route" in Switzerland and to Austria. He lost his life in one of the most beautiful areas of the European Alps.

The orthopaedic world has been deprived of a notable talent and SICOT of one of its most outstanding members. *International Orthopaedics* has lost its English editor and each member of the Editorial Board a much loved friend.

May his wife, Mary, find in these lines the warmest sympathy from Lester's friends in *International Orthopaedics*, and be sure that, among them also, he will never be forgotten.



W. Taillard  
Chairman of the Editorial Board of  
*International Orthopaedics*