Jerrold Peerman Nesselrod

July 11, 1904-September 6, 1991

J. Peerman Nesselrod was born in Casselton, North Dakota, July 11, 1904. He attended the Crookston, Minnesota High School and, in 1922, enrolled in Northwestern University, from which he obtained the degrees of bachelor of science in 1926, bachelor of medicine in 1929, doctor of medicine in 1930, and master of science in 1933. He was second in his graduating class in medicine. In 1929 and 1930 he was an intern in the Evanston Hospitals. From 1930 to 1933 he carried on a private practice of medicine in Evanston and was also an instructor in anatomy at the Northwestern University Medical School. From 1933 to 1935 he did graduate work in proctology at the University of Pennsylvania, receiving the degree of master of science in medicine in 1935. Following this, "Nesty," as he was known to his friends, joined the Mayo Clinic initially as assistant in proctology and then as a member of the Section of Proctology and instructor in the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. He resigned from the staff of the Mayo Clinic to resume the private practice of proctology in Evanston, Illinois, in 1937, where he also became assistant professor of surgery at the Northwestern University Medical School and a member of the staff in proctology at the Evanston Hospital.

In 1950, he published a seminal work, *Proctology in General Practice*, a text which he, himself, partially illustrated. Louis Buie stated in its forward, "We physicians who are contemporaries of the author, and especially those of us who are engaged in general practice, are fortunate that this volume is available. It is the fruit of years of labor in the study, the laboratory, the operating room, at the bedside and in the consultation room. Its author is a physician who has proved his unusual qualifications."

Nesty was a diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners and had been a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons since 1938. He was declared a member of the Founders' Group in



Proctology by the American Board of Surgery in 1941 and was certified as a specialist in proctology by the American Board of Proctology in 1950. He was a member of a number of distinguished societies, including The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, the Pan-Pacific Surgical Association, the Chicago Surgical Society, the Alumni Association of the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Phi Beta Kappa, the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, the Nu Sigma Nu professional medical fraternity, the Society of the Sigma Xi, and the Sigma Nu academic fraternity. He was also an accomplished flutist and piccolo player, often performing with local chamber and symphony orchestras.

In 1960, Nesty decided to move to the West Coast and joined the Sansum Medical Clinic, where he remained until his retirement in 1983. He passed away in his 88th year from complications of a cerebrovascular accident. He is remembered as the quintessential gentleman—soft-spoken, compassionate, endlessly patient, and indefatigably supportive of his younger colleagues.

Dr. Nesselrod leaves his wife, Piri, two daughters of a former marriage, and six grandchildren.

Marvin L. Corman, M.D.