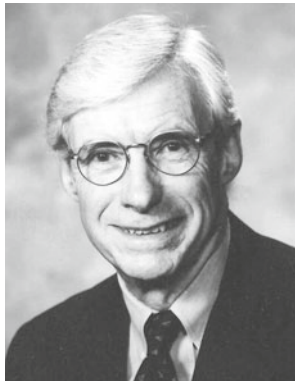


Roger Sherman (1930–2010)

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Roger Sherman began his education at Grove City College earning his bachelor's degree. He subsequently obtained an MBA from the Harvard Business School and his Ph.D. in economics at Carnegie-Mellon. Almost his entire academic career was spent at the University of Virginia's Economics Department, where he attained considerable distinction as scholar and became highly regarded as a wonderful colleague and member of the University community. He served on many committees and as Department Chair. Before assuming his emeritus status he was Brown-Forman Professor of Economics. Upon his retirement from Virginia he taught at the University of Houston Economics Department, where he continued to contribute with his years of accumulated wisdom.

Roger was a very productive researcher. His research encompassed several topics in industrial organization. Over the years he became more interested in regulatory economics, the theory of monopoly, peak-load pricing and similar topics. He published numerous articles including articles in major journals, for example, *American*

Economic Review, Review of Economics and Statistics, Econometrica, Quarterly Journal of Economics, and the Southern Economic Journal, among many others. He wrote a number of books on industrial organization and regulatory economics. His latest book, *Market Regulation*, was published by Addison Wesley in 2007.

Not only was Roger an outstanding researcher; he was a dedicated and inspiring teacher. He always presented his material in an interesting, assured and lucid manner. His impact on students was considerable, especially at the graduate level. The list is long but two names stand out for their contribution and for the impact Roger had on their career. Michael Vischer was probably Roger's most outstanding student. Sadly, Michael died all too young in his thirties. At the time Roger was particularly distressed by Michael's death because it was a loss of a young applied micro theorist, who had a very promising career ahead of him. Even more the personal loss Roger felt was huge. Catherine Eckel was another of Roger's outstanding students. Catherine spent most of her professional career at Virginia Tech, but moved in 2005 to the University of Texas at Dallas. Roger had a great impact not only on the careers of Catherine and Michael but also on many other students, for example, Gary Fournier at Florida State and Frank Scott at Kentucky, and colleagues including the writer of this obituary. Roger was always ready to give colleagues comments on their working papers. If he had a fault, it was that he could not bring himself to be hard on a colleague's work. He always tried to find a kind word. even for a weak paper. He probably knew that such unfortunate colleagues would hear more than enough criticism from colleagues lacking his generosity.

Roger was an extremely highly regarded economist not just for his research, teaching, insight and generosity to students and colleagues, but also for his service to the profession. He served on numerous committees including the Executive Committee of the American Economic Association. He was a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Regulatory Economics* from its first Issue in 1989 until his death. He was the kind of board member that is on every editor's wish list. He was thorough, provided insights, was fair and objective and completed his assignments promptly! JRE will miss his excellent work.

Roger will be remembered for considerable achievements as a teacher, researcher, scholar and colleague. However, he will be best remembered by those whose lives he touched for his humanity. He was a fine and generous human being. This loss will be what most hurts those who knew him well.

Michael Crew