

## MEMORIAM: WILLIAM J. MCCARTHY

BRIAN FEDERICI

*Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, California*

William J. McCarthy, 56, Insect Pathologist in the Department of Entomology at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, and of rural Port Matilda, PA passed away Saturday, March 28, 1998, at his home. Bill, or “Mac” as he was known to many of his friends and colleagues, was born June 27, 1941, in Mamaroneck, NY and was married to Jessiann Dortch, who survives him along with his two children, a daughter, Shannon Natalie, a student at Penn State, and a son, Brendan William, at home. Bill earned his bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Delaware, and a doctorate in biochemistry from New York University. He did postdoctoral work at Boyce Thompson Institute. Bill’s early research focused on insect viruses, and he worked on both entomopoxviruses and baculoviruses. Over the years, his research shifted to the mode of action of *Bacillus thuringiensis*, where most recently he was studying the effects of activated endotoxins on midgut epithelial cells *in vitro*.

Bill’s life was an inspiration. Struggling with Post Polio Syndrome for the last 20 years, he never used it as an excuse or asked for special exceptions. He went through life with a remarkable sense of reality, and at the same time with a quick wit and sense of humor that not only put his life in perspective, but brought a great many smiles and laughter to those fortunate enough to enjoy his personality. Those who knew Mac will remember an enormously intelligent man with a wonderful sense of humor. While a dedicated scientist, Bill was very devoted to his wife and children, and made sure they received highest priority in his life.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, 205 E Beaver Avenue, State College, PA, 16801 or the F.I.S.H. Youth Group, State College Presbyterian Church, 132 W Beaver Avenue, State College, PA, 16801.

Dr. McCarthy was long a member of the Tissue Culture Association (now Society for In Vitro Biology) and a contributing force to development of the invertebrate themes of the society and the journals. He was a dedicated reviewer and contributor to In Vitro. His efforts will be missed.

—The Editor