
**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
On the Death of Professor Emeritus Raymond W.M. Chun**

Dr. Raymond Wai Mun (Ray) Chun, Professor Emeritus of Neurology and Pediatrics died on March 14, 2014 at the age of 88. Ray was born on January 26, 1926 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Ray served in the US Army from 1944 with honorable discharge in 1947. He received a B.S. degree from St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia in 1951 and an M.D. degree from Georgetown University in 1955. After internship at Philadelphia General Hospital (1955-1956), he returned to Georgetown for residency in pediatrics (1956-1958), where his interest in neurology was awakened by Frances Forster, M.D., who was then Dean of the School of Medicine at Georgetown and subsequently moved to Madison as the Chair of Neurology in 1958. Dr. Forster asked Ray to join him, and although the young Hawaiian was quite content in Washington D.C. and had only a vague notion where Wisconsin was located, he could not bring himself to refuse Forster's offer. Ray completed residency in neurology at the University of Wisconsin (1958-1961) and pediatric neurology at the Neurological Institute-Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York in 1959-1960.

He was appointed Assistant Professor in Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology at the University of Wisconsin in 1961, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1965. He was a Visiting Professor at the Brain Research Institute in Zurich, Switzerland in 1965-1966, and was promoted to Professor of Neurology in 1971, serving as Acting Chair of the Department from 1978-1980. He served as Medical Director of the Waisman Center on Mental Retardation and Human Development from 1982-1990 where his expertise and experience as a pediatric neurologist was a cornerstone of the Waisman Center's clinical program for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Ray was a world renowned clinical and academic pediatric neurologist whose contributions significantly influenced the practice of pediatric neurology. He was best known for the invention of what became known as the "Chun gun," an ingenious device that focused a 150 watt light source for cranial transillumination with cooling enabling safe detection of hydrocephalus and other brain fluid collections in newborns and infants. The "Chun gun" was used extensively all over the world until the 1990s, and saved many children from the risks and discomforts of invasive diagnostic procedures before the development of modern imaging technology.

Ray's work on an arbovirus associated encephalitis, now known as La Crosse encephalitis, was also highly influential. With University colleagues including virologist Wayne Thompson and neuropsychologist Charles Matthews, his recognition and characterization of the clinical and seasonal features of this disorder provided new insights on the epidemiology and sequelae of this form of encephalitis.

His other academic contributions included more than 82 original research articles, reviews and book chapters on human and animal reflex epilepsy, ataxias, chorea, incontinentia pigmenti, myasthenic syndromes, and infections of the nervous system in children. He was an important member of a research team that disproved the "Feingold Hypothesis" which postulated a relationship between food additives and hyperactivity.

Ray served in numerous leadership roles in professional societies including the American Academy of Neurology, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, the New York Academy of Sciences, and the American Society for Neurologic Research. He was a founding member of the Child Neurology Society (CNS), the major professional organization of pediatric neurologists in this country, served as its President in

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1982, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the CNS in 2006. He advanced pediatric neurological care in the state of Wisconsin through teaching activities of the Wisconsin Neurological Society, serving as President of the Society from 1975-1977.

Ray was a magnificent bedside teacher and mentor to medical students, residents, fellows and junior faculty. Many of the pediatric neurologists he trained went on to distinguished academic careers and became leaders in the field. After appointment as Emeritus Professor in 1990 he remained active in clinical practice for several more years. The Department of Neurology established the “Raymond Chun Pediatric Neurology Lectureship” in recognition of his multiple contributions to pediatric neurology and his service in the Medical School.

Ray was also known for talents that went well beyond the medical center and pediatric neurology. He had a passion for mushrooms and was an expert harvester, collecting morels and growing shiitake mushrooms in his home garden. He was an outstanding tennis player with a remarkable touch. He approached the game of tennis with joy, dedication and attention to detail that perhaps carried over from his approaches as a neurologist. His magical backhand slice and stop volley were the envy of tennis players in Dane County and beyond. He won several USTA State Championships in mixed doubles. After retirement he spent many hours volunteering and coaching young players, especially grade school students, and was also sought after as a practice partner by members of the UW tennis team – a remarkable testimony to his skill even in his later years. He counseled young players on tactics of the game and how to prepare for specific opponents. He was a Founding Father of the Greater Madison Tennis Association which was created to organize teaching and social activities of tennis as a family oriented sport. Young children would ring his doorbell to ask him to play, which he would happily do.

Ray is survived by his wife of 53 year, Dr. Memee K. Chun, who is also a Professor Emeritus of pediatrics, and three children, Michael R. (Tina) Chun, Ruthanne (Jim) Chun Polikowski and Mark R. (Marianne Takamiya) Chun and several grandchildren. Ray was beloved by his patients and colleagues. He was able to create a sense of ease and comfort during interactions with his patients in dire and devastating circumstances, which was unparalleled. This impact undoubtedly came from his capacity to show a cheerful smile and share emotions of joy and happiness even in difficult circumstances, which was reassuring to patients, and was contagious. He could also share deep emotions of grieving with patients and families that was epitomized by kindness, grace, and the ability to see profound joy in every phase of life. He was a remarkable individual who is greatly missed. He was loved by everyone who knew him.

Respectfully submitted by the Memorial Committee:

Andrew J. Waclawik

Thomas P. Sutula

Norman Fost