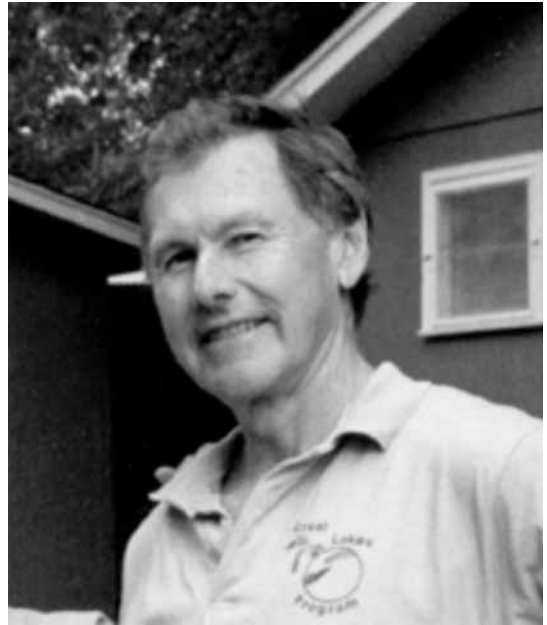


John R. Vallentyne, in memoriam

Dolors Planas

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Dr Jack Vallentyne died at his home in Hamilton (Ontario, Canada) on Saturday, June 16th 2007. After cremation, his ashes were scattered at Lake Superior (Laurentian Great Lakes, Canada) which he loved so much. He is survived by his wife Ann, children, Peter, Stephen, Jane, Anne-Marie, and Geoffrey, and five grandchildren.

John Reubec Vallentyne was born in Toronto on July 31, 1926. He completed his undergrad studies in Biology and Chemistry at Queen's University (Kingston, Ontario; 1945-49) and his Ph.D. in paleolimnology at Yale's University (USA; 1949-52) under the supervision of George Evelyn Hutchinson. Thereafter, he held several positions: Lecturer (1952-1955) and then Assistant Professor in Biology at Queen's University (1955-58); Fellow of the Carnegie Institution of Washington Geophysical Laboratory (Washington DC; 1956-57); Associated Professor and Full Professor of zoology at Cornell University (New York State; 1958-66); Guggenheim Fellowship for Biogeochemical studies at the Pallanza Institute (Italy; 1964-65). In 1966, he joined W. E. Johnson and participated in the development of the Freshwater Institute of Winnipeg (Manitoba, Canada) and in the creation of the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA), first as a Scientific Leader of the Eutrophication Section (1966-72) and second as a Senior Scientist (1972-75). Afterwards, he moved to Ottawa (Ontario), and became Senior Scientific Advisor, of Ocean and Aquatic Sciences, and Science Advisor to the Fisheries Research Board of Canada (1975-1977). After the Fisheries Research Board of Canada was dismantled, he served as a senior scientist at the Department of Fisheries & Oceans in the Canadian Center for Inland Waters (CCIW) in Burlington (Ontario) until his retirement (1977-92). From 1986-1991, he was the Canadian Co-Chair

in the International Joint Commission Great Lakes Science Advisory Board. After retirement, he was nominated Scientist Emeritus in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in CCIW until his death. In his intensive and extensive professional life Jake had a renowned career in the environmental conservation, restoration, management of aquatic resources, and a visionary. As a scientist at the Freshwater Institute of Winnipeg he contributed to the rapid upsurge of the institution by attracting talented scientists from around the world in the late 1960's and early 1970's. I met Jack Vallentyne in the early 1970's, during a recruiting tour to Europe, where he spent some months with Dr Ramon Margalef at the "Instituto de Investigaciones Pesqueras" (Barcelona, Spain). In the 1970's, he was well known globally for his anti-eutrophication and phosphorus abatement campaigns. His book *The Algal Bow: Lakes and Man* (1974) which was translated to several languages, became a bestseller and contributed to the wake-up on the causes and consequences of lake deterioration. He educated and informed not only the public but also had some influence on policymakers. Thus, he contributed to the revision of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) by developing and implementing the "ecosystem approach" to research and environmental conservation. He promoted this approach to education by initiating a seminar series, Science Citizen Committee. In the early 1980's he started the Johnny Biosphere Project and, after his retirement, concentrated his efforts on educating school children through his alter ego "Johnny Biosphere" (his Web site is frequently visited, <http://www.johnnybiosphere.ca/index.html>). In recognition of his contributions to world science, the Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management Society (AEHMS) established a "J.R.Vallentyne Lecture Series" in 1997 at its biennial conferences which are delivered by distinguished scientists. He has won awards from the most prestigious in science such as the "A.C. Redfield Lifetime Achievement Award" from the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, the "Rachel Carson Award" from the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. He also held The Hamilton Environmentalists of the Year Awards each year since 1979. He has been President of several Scientific Societies and on editorial board's member of several Journals too. Before his death, he was busy preparing a special presentation for the SIL-2007 Congress in Montreal and working, with David Schindler a co-author, on a book on eutrophication.

We will remember Jack Vallentyne with his Terrestrial Globe on his shoulders, asking to the uninitiated the question "Have you been good to your ecosystem today?" In keeping with Jack's life-long work of promoting environmental awareness, donations may be sent to Greenpeace or other environmental organizations.