

## OBITUARY

### ROY WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN 1916–2013



Dr. Roy W. Chamberlain, a pioneer medical entomologist and virologist, died on April 12, 2013, after a brief illness, in Atlanta, GA. He was 96 years of age.

Roy was born in Stanton, CA, on July 24, 1916. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Montana State College in 1942. Roy then enlisted in the army (1942–46) and attained the rank of First Lieutenant in 1944, serving at Ft. Douglas, Salt Lake City, UT and Ft. McPherson, Atlanta, GA. The direction that Roy's career would take was indicated by his contributions to the publication *The Mosquitoes of the Southern United States East of Oklahoma and Texas* (Carpenter et al. 1946). At the time, malaria was still endemic in the southern USA, and the army was concerned about the reintroduction of malaria by soldiers returning from having served in malarious areas. This publication was a well-illustrated taxonomic guidebook which greatly aided workers in the collection, processing, and identification of the abundant mosquitoes of this region. After his military service, Roy entered the Johns Hopkins University in 1946 and studied under Lloyd Rozeboom in the Department of

Parasitology. He investigated the mechanism of insecticide interaction on mosquitoes and obtained his Doctor of Science degree in medical entomology in 1949.

Roy joined the fledgling Communicable Disease Center (what would become the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC) in Montgomery, AL, in 1949. In 1950, he joined the commissioned corps of the US Public Health Service. Early on, Roy's interests focused on how arthropod-borne viruses were maintained and transmitted (Chamberlain 1959; Chamberlain and Sudia 1961, 1967). In 1960, all operations in Montgomery moved to the new facility in Atlanta, and Roy spent the balance of his career here. Roy held various positions throughout his distinguished career at CDC: he served as Chief of the Arbovirus Vector Laboratory from 1949 until 1967, Chief of the Arbovirus Infectious Unit, 1967 to 1968, and Deputy Chief of the Virology Division from 1969 until his retirement in 1981.

Roy was perhaps best known for his prolific and long-running collaborations with fellow pioneering medical entomologist and virologist