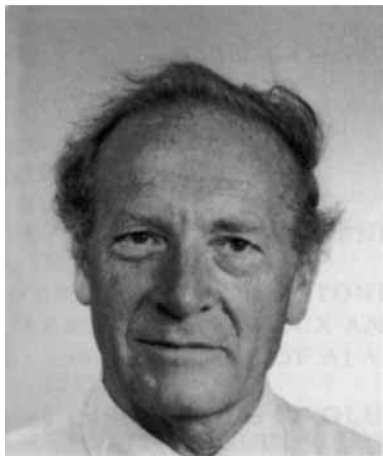


## OBITUARY NOTICE

ROY H. SMITH PhD, DSc, DIC.  
(1924–1991)



All those who knew Roy Smith will have been saddened by his death after a long illness borne with considerable courage and fortitude.

Much of Roy's career was spent at the then National Institute for Research in Dairying at Shinfield which had a long tradition of service to the Nutrition Society and its journals. His early work there was concerned with factors influencing the utilization of magnesium by the pre-ruminant calf, pioneering the use of intestinal cannulas and clarifying a number of then contentious issues, so providing the basis for recommendations on dietary magnesium requirements. Latterly, the main thrust of his work was directed at two main aspects of ruminant nutrition. One was to obtain fundamental information on processes determining amino acid supply to tissues. He was one

of the principal architects of the ARC Protein Evaluation System for Ruminants. The other was to investigate factors influencing carbohydrate digestion and metabolism, with the practical outcome of making best use of poor quality forage and other fibrous by-products in ruminant feeding. He lectured on these subjects worldwide and consulted for FAO and IAEA, helping to develop research programmes to improve efficiency of ruminant production in developing countries.

He served the Nutrition Society as Editor and Chairman of the Editorial Board of the *British Journal of Nutrition* from 1982–1988. Towards the end of that period he conceived the idea that the Society should produce a review journal providing authoritative, state-of-the-art reviews and as a consequence was very much the architect and driving force behind the launching of *Nutrition Research Reviews*. His commitment to this venture is emphasized by the fact that only a few weeks before he died he was writing letters to his fellow editors and committing to paper some of his thoughts for contents of a future issue.

Behind his quiet, unassuming and almost diffident manner lay a keen discernment of what constituted nutritional science and a real gift for encouragement and persuasion. He always appeared to be unruffled, yet at times this was tempered with urgency as deadlines approached. When we received a review from Roy for editing, there was always with it a critique which showed that he had already spent considerable time reading it and assessing its strengths and weaknesses.

We know that he will be greatly missed by his wife and family and to them we offer our sincere sympathy. Those of us who had the privilege of working with him on *Nutrition Research Reviews* will miss his leadership and wise council but hope that the publication will go from strength to strength as a fitting tribute to his vision and commitment.

J. W. T. Dickerson  
M. I. Gurr