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Hiram N. Lasher

About the cover

Born in 1920 in Catskill, NY, Hiram Lasher was a veterinarian who carved a singular role in poultry health. He worked in disease control, diagnostics, vaccine development and production, and technology transfer. He pioneered a number of important poultry vaccines that improved the health of poultry and the profitability of the industry. He achieved significant success as an entrepreneur and businessman, founding several companies (Delaware Poultry Laboratories/Sterwin Labs, Lasher Associates and others). He interfaced with poultry companies, veterinarians, business leaders, researchers and regulatory officials, thus creating an extraordinary network.

Hiram was a charter member of AAAP and served on several committees. In 1987, he endowed an award (now known as the Lasher-Bottorff Award) to recognize outstanding service veterinarians in the poultry industry and was an early recipient. He also was honored by AAAP with its Special Service Award and Life Membership. He was a civic activist and provided major philanthropic support to several universities, Boy Scouts of America, and many others. A unique, controversial, and influential individual, Hiram left a strong mark on the poultry biologics and poultry health industries. He eschewed retirement and was professionally active until his death in 2012. His biography is in the AAAP archives and available on the AAAP website.