

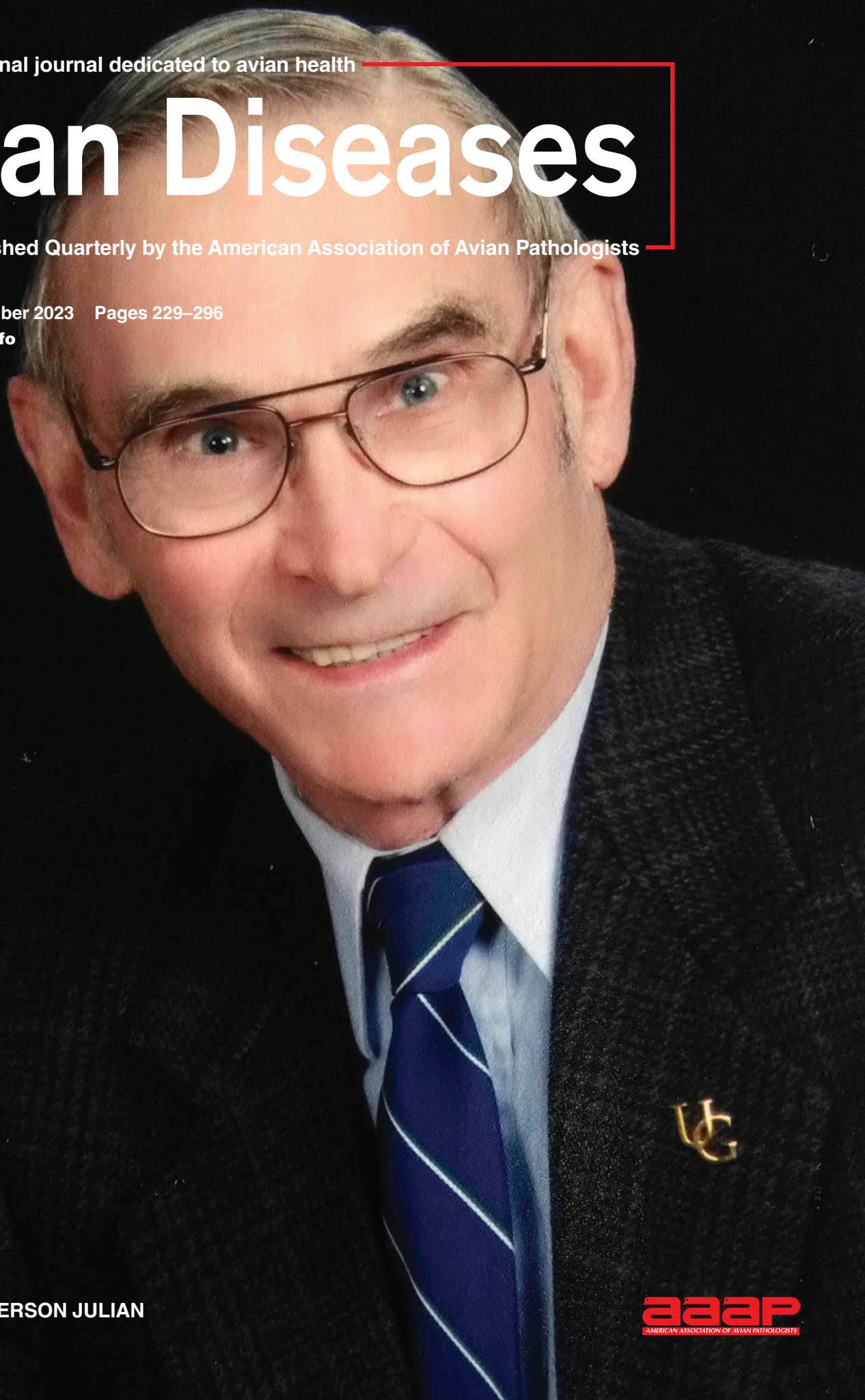
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DR. RICHARD JEFFERSON JULIAN

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*About the cover*

**DR. RICHARD JEFFERSON JULIAN (1929–2022)**

Born in 1929 in Ebenezer, Ontario, Canada, Richard (Dick) Julian grew up on a farm before entering veterinary medicine and graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in 1952. Marrying Jean Kirby in 1954, he was initially a large animal practitioner before pathology became his passion. While Head of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Brighton, Dick did not hesitate to move abroad with his family to Nigeria to help set up a veterinary school in Ibadan in 1966–7. While working in Guelph he moved to the West Indies, to organize their veterinary diagnostic laboratories network.

Dick completed a diploma in pathology at OVC in 1974. Returning from the West Indies in 1979, he accepted an appointment at OVC. He was a Professor in the Department of Pathobiology until his retirement in 1994 and was granted the honour of Professor Emeritus after an outstanding career.

While Dr. Julian was instrumental in the development of the first coccidiosis vaccine in poultry in 1982, his most important legacy to poultry science is his discovery of the pathogenesis of ascites, a metabolic disease, which had been mysteriously killing thousands of broilers in the early 80s. He was also the first scientist to question the race to a faster growing chicken in his paper ‘Are we growing them too fast?’ published in 1987. He has published over 150 papers on metabolic and musculoskeletal disorders in chickens and turkeys over the course of his career.

Throughout his career, Dick received multiple awards in recognition for his work, but his greatest pride was the sharing of his knowledge and wisdom with undergraduate and graduate students, as well as colleagues. He was often heard saying that a good poultry clinician must be a good pathologist. He gave countless poultry disease lectures, seminars, and workshops around the globe, even well after his retirement. One of his last adventures was a weeklong pathology seminar in Haiti while in his mid 80s. According to an attending colleague, Dick was still enjoying teaching and challenging his pupils, quizzing them with his signature wit and grin.

Dick had such a great impact on poultry medicine that the Chicken Farmers of Canada, the National Canadian Poultry Organizations, and Canadian veterinarians created the Riddell-Julian poultry student scholarship in 2019. This scholarship, awarded to Canadian veterinary students, encourages a career in poultry medicine and is managed by the AAAP where he was also nominated as a life member in 1997. Many remember Dick’s and Jean’s attendance at the annual AAAP meetings.

Until recently, both were enjoying retirement, gardening, and visiting family until Jean’s passing in December 2020. After several years of declining health, Dick passed away peacefully at home on May 15, 2022. He leaves behind his children Kathryn (Carl), Kirby (Barb) and Stephen (Naida), his 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren, as well as past graduate students, friends and the poultry community who will greatly miss his wisdom, wit and sense of humor.

Submitted by Martine Boulianne