

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION EUGENE DEBS ROBIN, M.D.

(1919-2000)

Eugene Debs Robin, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Physiology, died at age 80, at Stanford Medical Center, of complications of cancer.

Dr. Robin, after a distinguished career at Harvard Medical School, in cardio-pulmonary physiology, and at the University of Pittsburgh, joined the Stanford Faculty in 1970. He served as Chief of the Division of Pulmonary Medicine, in the Department of Medicine, Acting Chairman of the Department of Medicine, 1971-1973, and Acting Chairman of the Department of Physiology, 1977-1986. Dr. Robin served as President of the National Thoracic Society, 1970-1971.

Of Dr. Robin's many accomplishments, he may have been best known for his classic description, with Professor C. Sydney Burwell, of Harvard, of the "Pickwickian Syndrome", characterized by somnolence of obese individuals, when sedentary, and for his classic studies of the cardio-pulmonary physiology of diving mammals. In his later years, Dr. Robin became an advocate of patients' rights, and wrote "Matters of Life and Death", a widely used book by patients, often challenging standard medical practices.

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