



In Memoriam H. Warner Kloepfer, 1913-1982

On March 27, 1982, Dr. H. Warner Kloepfer died in New Orleans. After a memorial service in New Orleans, on April 1st he was buried in Roseville, Ohio, his birthplace. His death is a loss to a large scientific community and many friends.

H. Warner Kloepfer received his academic training in his native Ohio—B.A., B.S., and M.A. at Muskingum College and Ohio University. He was then awarded the Ph.D. for his work in human genetics under Dr. Laurence H. Snyder at the Ohio State University, with a dissertation on "The Mapping of Human Chromosomes." In 1952, after he had served on the faculties of Dakota Wesleyan University and the College of the Ozarks, Dr. Kloepfer was appointed Associate Professor of Human Genetics at Tulane University School of Medicine. When he joined Tulane's Department of Anatomy, the Chairman was Dr. Harold Cummins, a pioneer in studies on dermatoglyphics. Dr. Kloepfer became a friend as well as an associate of Dr. Cummins, and likewise developed an absorbing interest in dermatoglyphics. More generally, human genetics, both normative and clinical, was a major pursuit until 1972, as indicated by titles of early published articles such as "Autosomal Recessive Inheritance of Duchenne-type Muscular Dystrophy" (1958) and "Genetics of Microcephaly in Louisiana" (1967).

During the last ten years, twin research exerted a special fascination for Dr. Kloepfer. He became involved in the collection of extensive dermatoglyphic data in twins in an effort to describe single gene effects in dermatoglyphic features and to assess their relationship to medical problems, while at the same time aiming at developing a dermatoglyphic index for determining the zygosity of like-sexed twins. A Founding Member of the International Society for Twin Studies, he collaborated extensively with the Mendel

Institute in Rome and with the Mothers of Twins Clubs throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and other countries.

Dr. Kloefer played an active role in many scientific societies. He was a founding member of the International Dermatoglyphics Association, the American Dermatoglyphics Association, and the International Society of Twin Studies, and additionally was an early member of the American Society of Human Genetics (of which he was treasurer from 1957 to 1960), and a board member of the American Genetics Society. He gave active support to the Mothers of Twins Clubs spread over the United States and worldwide.

Warner was a quiet, courteous, kind, warm person. A member of the Friends, he exemplified Quaker principles in his consideration and compassion towards his fellow man and his readiness to promote the health and welfare of others. He was a board member and regional representative of the American Friends Service Committee, board member of the Central City Economic Opportunity Corporation, consultant on the phenylketonuria project of the Maternal and Child Health Program, and active in various civic and charitable works.

With Dr. Kloefer's passing we have lost a colleague of great integrity and a very dear friend. We express our sincerest condolences to those closest to him, especially his wife of over 40 years, Ruth, and his children, grandchildren, and sister.

**Chris C. Plato,
Baltimore, Maryland,
and
Wladimir Wertelecki,
Mobile, Alabama**