



Peter Faulkner, a well known member of the SIP for most of his career and Professor Emeritus at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, passed away peacefully with family at his side, on Monday, July 13, 2009, in his 81st year.

Apart from being an educator, Peter was the quintessential scientist. Just Vlák wrote "He was not only a very friendly person, but also a passionate scientist and an icon in the field of invertebrate virology. He made major contributions to the baculovirus research field in recognizing at an early stage the importance of genetics by developing plaque assays and generation baculovirus mutants, and by applying molecular techniques to study transcription regulation. He also made major discoveries, such as the function of GP64, P10 and P74, to name a few, and all that at an early stage."

His love of insect virology started when he was a scientist at the Insect Pathology Research Institute in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario (now the Great Lakes Forestry Centre) following in the footsteps of the great insect virologist Gernot Bergold. Later he was appointed Professor of Virology at Queen's University. Peter mentored many graduate students who went on to develop their own careers in insect virology and in other related fields.

He was an active member of SIP, served as a Trustee and as the Chair of the Organizing Committee that brought the Annual Meeting to Queen's University. Peter had an unflinching sense of social justice and served his community in Kingston in so many ways.

The scientist and the man will be missed by many world-wide.