

“Thanks for making the photo stamps on mites, ticks and acarologists available to the acarological community. The June IJA arrived yesterday. It is beautiful, and you are right to take pride in it. I understand well why you decided to make the change in management of IJA. I am happy for you that you will be relieved of the main editorial burden, which must have become onerous in recent years.” - Frank J. Radovsky (fjr@cmug.com)

“IJA 34(2) has just arrived here and it’s a beaut! In my opinion, the cover is the best you’ve ever published (which is saying something, considering the journal’s long history of hyper-attractive covers).” - Richard G. Robbins (richard.robbins@osd.mil)

“Best wishes and congratulations on your retirement as Managing Editor of IJA. Thanks for our friendship, the journal and for standards that will never be surpassed.” - Bob Smiley

“Congratulations, Vik! This is a stunning success for you and Indira, and all of us who care about acarology’s future.” - Dana L. Wrensch (wrensch.1@osu.edu)

OBITUARIES

We have learned with sadness of the death of two dear and well-known friends: (1) Dr. Tom Atyeo, Emeritus Professor of Entomology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA, died on 9 October 2008. He was well known for his work on Bdelloidea, Raphignathoidea and astigmatid feather mites associated with birds. He was also a member of the IJA Editorial Board for decades. Details of his death are not available at this time, but an obituary is expected in the near future. Dr. G. W. Krantz writes: “It is always difficult to say goodbye to old friends, but the passing of Tom Atyeo is especially hard for me. When I first decided to test the acarological waters over 50 years ago, Tom was one of a cadre of young scientists who also had made the decision to explore the world of mites. The friendship and moral support of early explorers like Tom, Connie Yunker, Don Chant, Mike Abbatiello, Don Johnston, Dan Sonenshine, Preston Hunter, and Rod Rodriguez soon convinced me that I had made a wise career choice. With the help of mentors like Ed Baker, Joe Camin, George Wharton and Russell Strandtmann, we eventually found our footing, and most of us went on to teaching and research careers in acarology and related fields. I always considered Tom to be one of the stars among that estimable group, and I followed his acarological progress with interest and admiration. I feel privileged to have known him and shall miss him greatly.” Cheol-Min Kim, Tom’s former volunteer chauffeur in Columbus, adds: “It is, alas, sad to hear the news on the loss of old great gangs of the Blue Nile one by one. Tom Atyeo will be missed by many around the world. My sincere condolences to his family.” Additional condolences have been received from the global acarological community and have been forwarded to Tom’s family and friends.



Tom Atyeo