

Stephen W. Feldberg

Stephen W. Feldberg, a retired senior chemist in the Department of Applied Science at Brookhaven, died on June 11, 2024, in Brooklyn, NY.

Born in New York City on July 22, 1937, he grew up in Hornell and Bath, NY. He attended Princeton University, where he majored in chemistry and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He stayed on to do graduate work, receiving a PhD in analytical chemistry in 1961. He went to work at Brookhaven that year, and, except for brief stints as a visiting professor in universities around the world, stayed there until his retirement, in 2001.

When he first arrived at Brookhaven, the lab's IBM7090 computer was one of the fastest in the world, and he began to use it to simulate various problems in electrochemistry. He went on to develop commercial software to study electrochemical reactions. In 1992, he won the Society for Electroanalytical Chemistry's Charles N. Reilley Award, and in 1998 won the American Chemical Society's Electrochemistry Award. Steve's major contributions to his field, according to the Brookhaven Bulletin, include "basic and applied research in the theory and computer simulation of electrochemical phenomena, processes in which electrons are transferred from one material in a system to another, such as from metal to a solution in a battery."

Steve loved to sail his boat on the Long Island Sound; to ski in Alta, Utah; to go fly fishing in New Zealand; and to play tennis, cribbage, and the guitar. He was notorious for his jokes and terrible puns, for his dislike of neckties and well-done steak, and for his love of hot dogs, popcorn, and ginger ale.

He is survived by many cousins and colleague-friends all over the world.