

Memorial Hall of Fame

Established in 1981, the Memorial Hall of Fame serves as a posthumous tribute to a creative and devoted physician, research scientist, or other individual who has been an active member of the AIUM and contributed to the field of ultrasound in medicine. Honorees are announced at the Annual Meeting.

Karen J. Ophir, BS, RDMS



Karen J. Ophir, BS, RDMS, was always an advocate of getting a good education and did so herself by earning a bachelor of science degree in mathematics education from the University of Kansas in 1975, a bachelor of science in computer science from the University of Houston in 1987, a certificate in diagnostic medical sonography from Houston Community College in 1993, and ultimately became credentialed by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS), certified in the abdomen and obstetrics and gynecology, in 1993, which is also when she also became a member of American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM).

In 1997, Ms Ophir began practicing sonography at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston while also sharing her knowledge by instructing students, sonographers, residents, and fellows in scanning techniques and ultrasound physics.

In 2002, together with her husband, Jonathan Ophir, PhD, FAIUM, and his colleague, Kevin Parker, PhD, she helped develop the International Tissue Elasticity Conference (ITEC), which was dedicated to imaging tissue elasticity using ultrasound. For over a decade, she organized the ITEC conference while also creating

lifelong friendships with many of her colleagues in the field of ultrasound.

In addition to her work in the field, Ms Ophir also volunteered to help disseminate ultrasound knowledge by her active participation in AIUM committees and subcommittees, including as chair of the Basic Science and Instrumentation Community and the Technical Standards Committee. Her participation in many subcommittees included in the Standard Presentation and Labeling Subcommittee (as a result of which she assisted in the preparation of the AIUM Technical Bulletin, "Transducer Manipulation," [1999]) the Quality Assurance in the Clinic Subcommittee (which resulted in the publication of *Routine Quality Assurance for Diagnostic Ultrasound Equipment* in 2008), Recommended Ultrasound Terminology Subcommittee, the Transducer Manipulation for Echocardiography Subcommittee, and the Thermal Index Subcommittee.

In addition to her contributions to the AIUM, Ms Ophir was also a member of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography and served as a Cardiovascular Physics National Registry Exam question writer for the ARDMS.

As a result of her significant contributions to the growth and development of diagnostic ultrasound throughout her life, AIUM fellow, Karen Ophir, BS, RDMS, was awarded the 2008 Distinguished Sonographer Award.

Sonographer, teacher, volunteer, Karen J. Ophir, died on August 5, 2020. She is survived by her son, Alex, and daughter-in-law, Angela; and her three grandsons Marcus, Evan, and Cohen. Her husband, Jonathan Ophir, predeceased her on October 19, 2017.