



In Memoriam
Jim Seiber
1940 – 2023

James N. Seiber, Jim, born in 1940, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family while leaving behind a long list of accomplishments, friends and colleagues. He began his studies earning a B.S. in Physics at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Kentucky. He continued with an M.S. in Chemistry at Arizona State and obtained his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry at Utah State University. He worked at Dow Chemical in Michigan and California before joining the University of California at Davis faculty in 1969, eventually becoming Professor of Environmental Toxicology. He led the Departments of Environmental Toxicology and Food Science and served as Associate Dean for Research for the UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CA&ES). His significant and impressive research on pesticides, their use, analysis and environmental impact led to over 280 publications, 3 ACS Symposium Series books, numerous presentations as part of AGFD and other technical symposia and participation on expert committees around the world. Dr. Seiber served as a leading expert for the World Health Organization addressing the impact of pesticides on the health of both youths and adults. He served as Editor of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry (1999-2014) successfully stewarding it into one of the most respected scientific journals in the field. Along with his academic efforts at UC Davis, Jim led the Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno and served as Director of the USDA Western Regional Research Center from 1998-2010. Jim and his wife Rita have three sons, Chuck, Chris, and Kenny and seven grandchildren. Jim received a long list of awards reflecting the impact of his work, including – Fellow of ACS Agrochemicals Division (1988), AGFD Fellow (2006), ACS Fellow (2010), AAAS Fellow (2013), Kenneth A. Spencer Award (2012), USDA Sterling B. Hendricks Memorial Lecture (2018) and the CA&ES Award of Distinction (2018). He served on the UC Davis Foundation Board of Trustees and funded the James and Rita Seiber Fellowship for Innovation in International Agricultural Research and the James, Rita Seiber International Graduate Student Award and the James and Rita Seiber Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry Fellowship. He is remembered as an eternally optimistic, kind and thoughtful friend, mentor and colleague. His many co-workers, collaborators and friends at AGFD miss him and extend condolences to his family.