

On Saturday 22 March 2008, Dr. Robert F. Denno, Professor Extraordinaire of Entomology, died of a heart attack on Sapelo Island, Georgia, where he was conducting field work.

Dr. Denno was born in Queens, New York, and grew up in Santa Barbara, California. He attended the University of California at Davis, receiving a B.S. in 1967 and a Ph.D. in 1973, both in entomology. He was a postdoc and then an assistant professor at Rutgers University before joining the Entomology Department at the University of Maryland in 1976. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1979 and Professor in 1985.

Dr. Denno was one of the world's leading insect ecologists, noted especially for his exemplary studies—spanning three decades—of the arthropod community associated with saltmarsh cordgrass. He published over 130 scientific papers, edited two books, and was co-authoring a textbook on insect ecology at the time of his death. His work had been continuously supported by the National Science Foundation for the past 25 years.

Dr. Denno was in constant demand as a speaker, journal editor and panel member. At Maryland, he twice won Research Excellence awards at the College level (1990, 2000), and in 2000 was named a campus Distinguished Scholar-Teacher. He taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, on campus and in the field. His long-standing graduate class on insect ecology was especially admired.

Research mentorship was Bob Denno's foremost personal priority. The 20 students completing graduate degrees in his lab (6 M.S., 14 Ph.D.), like his 8 former postdocs, are all employed in entomology. Among them are faculty members at 18 universities; four have served as department chairs and three as deans.

Dr. Denno is survived by his wife of 42 years, Barbara, their sons Erik and Alex, and their grandchildren Noa and Ella.

The Faculty Memorial Scholarship Fund

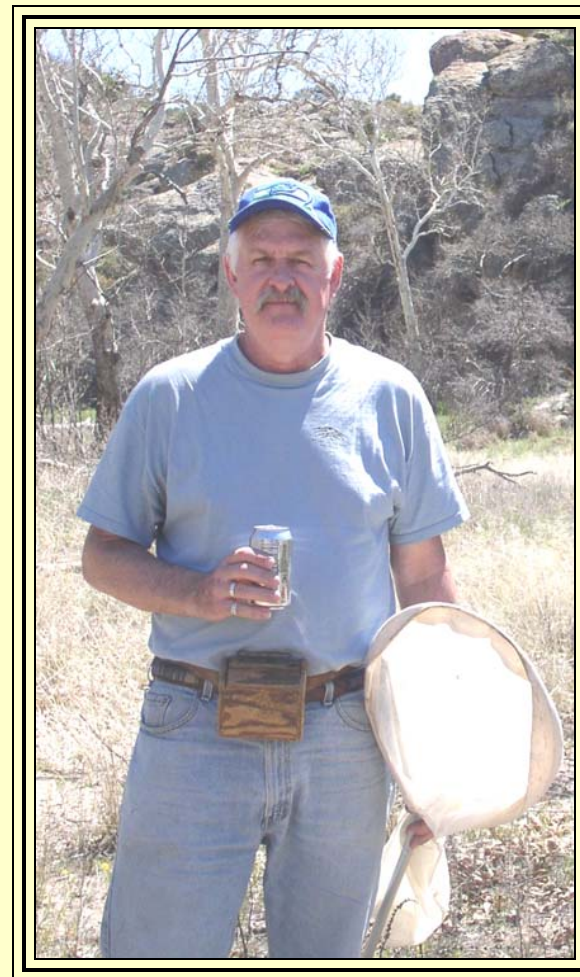
The department has established a new endowed scholarship fund in honor of former faculty including Dr. Denno, which will help to support graduate training. Donations would be gratefully accepted. Checks should be made out to the University of Maryland Foundation, identified as intended in memory of Robert Denno, and sent to the department.

A Memorial Tribute to Robert F. Denno

(1945 - 2008)

Professor of Entomology

Years of Service: 1975-2008



**Friday, 9 May 2008
4:00 p.m.**

**Lecture Hall 1101
BioSciences Research Building
University of Maryland**



Speakers will provide an overview of Dr. Denno's life and career, and of his legacy in his department, university and profession.

Opening Remarks – Charles Mitter, Entomology, UMD

Dean's Comments – Norma Allewell, Dean, College of Chemical & Life Sciences

Former Student & Chair's Thoughts – Michael Raupp, Entomology, UMD

Reflections of a Long-time Colleague - Pedro Barbosa, Entomology, UMD

A Friend and Classmate Remembers - Steve Clement, USDA-ARS, Pullman, WA

International Colleague's Observations - Stig Larssen, Uppsala University

Collaborator's Recollection - Steve Pennings, University of Houston

Colleague's Retrospective - Bill Fagan, Biology Department, UMD

Former Student's Remembrance – Betty Benrey, University of Neuchâtel

Former Postdoc's Reflection – Claudio Gratton, University of Wisconsin

Colleague's Appreciation – Barbara Thorne, Entomology, UMD

A Friend's Tribute – Douglass Miller, USDA-Beltsville (emeritus)

Family's Remarks - Barbara Denno, Erik Denno

Closing Comments – Charles Mitter

