Remembering George O. Waring III, MD

We lost one of the giants in ophthalmology. George O. Waring III, MD, passed peacefully yesterday, surrounded by his family. He had suffered a stroke earlier this month at his home.

Friends and colleagues around the world have been sharing memories of Dr. Waring online. If you would like to share your thoughts too, here are a few places where comments are being collected:

- Leave a comment for Dr. Waring’s family and learn more about the ophthalmic foundation being set up in his honor.
- Post a thought to the ISRS Facebook page.
- Read more about Dr. Waring’s career.

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Waring was a principal investigator in the Prospective Evaluation of Radial Keratotomy (PERK), the first formal clinical study of refractive surgery. He put together a trial, recruited nine centers and worked on it for 15 years. Dr. Waring’s leadership role in the PERK study was a landmark in his life, he said in a 2002 interview.

Dr. Waring was also the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Refractive Surgery (JRS), the official journal of ISRS, for 21 years, from 1989 to 2010. During his tenure, the journal became a monthly publication, the number of submissions per year tripled, the impact factor grew and the number of citations to JRS articles increased from the hundreds per year to thousands.

As H. Dunbar Hoskins, Jr., MD, Executive Vice President Emeritus of the Academy, said at Dr. Waring’s retirement, “You have always been a gentleman and a friend. I congratulate you on all you have accomplished. Your footsteps in the sands of time will not be erased and will be followed to even newer and greater innovations that will help our patients.”

May he rest in peace.