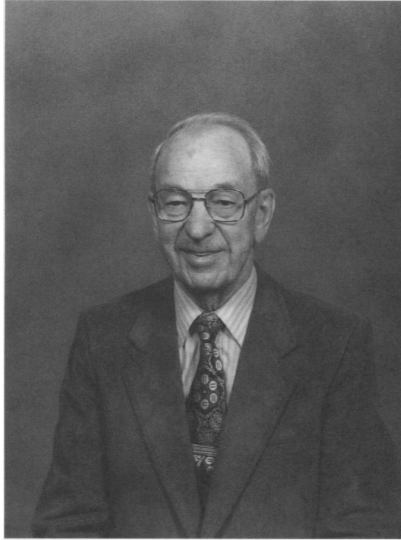


## In Memoriam:

### Donald Victor Zander, 1916–1999



Donald Victor Zander

It is with great sadness that we report that Don Zander passed away quietly after complications from a fall on December 29, 1999. Don was born February 15, 1916, in Washington State and returned there in 1955 to work for H&N International (Heisdorf & Nelson, Inc.) as Director of Poultry Health Research and Services, a position he held until his retirement in 1989.

In the interim after high school graduation, he worked in California on a poultry ranch sexing chickens to help put himself through the University of California at Berkeley, where he majored in poultry husbandry, earned a degree in nutrition at Colorado State University, and started work on his D.V.M.

While at Colorado State University, he met a young zoology teacher, Verna Marie Mace, and they were married in 1945. Dr. Zander spent 3 years in the Army, and in late 1946, Verna joined him in Germany for a year, after which they returned to CSU, Verna to teach and Don to finish his D.V.M. degree.

After receiving his D.V.M. in 1950, he joined the new University of California at Davis

Veterinary School and earned a Ph.D. while on staff and faculty.

Dr. Zander's great contributions to the field came from his experience, but they were especially attributable to his ingenuity and his practicality. For example, in 1951–52, a "new disease" hit California laying flocks and was finally diagnosed as infectious bronchitis. California had no capacity at that time for infectious bronchitis virus neutralization, but it was necessary to determine which flocks were susceptible and which were resistant as a result of an earlier outbreak. Don devised a challenge plan, and with his coworkers devised a practical plan of immunization by "willful infection" in California layers.

In 1955 he was invited to Redmond, WA, to join H&N International, a poultry breeding firm with international distribution. His assignment was to plan, staff, and direct their new health research laboratory in Woodinville. Under his leadership, much was accomplished. In addition to diagnosis and care of H&N breeding stock, pioneering research was done on sev-

eral poultry diseases. Don traveled extensively throughout the free world and helped establish research and diagnostic poultry laboratories (e.g., Germany, Brazil, and Japan). He was able to inspire a number of young veterinarians, both foreign and American, who visited the H&N lab to work under his tutelage.

A number of scientific papers came out of the lab, and Don was a contributor to the textbook *Diseases of Poultry*. He was a life member and past president of both the Western Poultry Disease Conference and the American Association of Avian Pathologists. His work was recognized by several awards such as the Distinguished Service Award from Washington Poultry Industries Association in 1982, Poultry Scientist of the Year from Pacific Egg and Poultry Association in 1988, and the C.A. Bottorff Award in 1990 from the American Association of Avian Pathologists for the "Diagnostic and technical service veterinarian who has made significant contributions as an avian pathologist to poultry health programs in North America." His work ethic was best explained in the dedication to Don of its 45th meeting and Proceedings of the Western Poultry Disease Conference at Cancun, Mexico, in 1996, "for his many years of devoted service to poultry med-

icine, WPDC, and the industry. A genius for the practical application of basic knowledge, enthusiastically sharing ideas and ideals, solving problems and inspiring others."

After retiring in 1989, Don and Verna traveled extensively, including missions for Volunteers for Overseas Cooperative Agencies in Bolivia and Uganda.

Don's enthusiasm and energy did not stop at the lab door. He was a loving and caring father to his three children, Linda, David, and Arnold, always respecting them and their ideas while guiding them. He adored his grandchildren, Erin, Nathan, Justin, Rebecca, and Donald. He has the District Award of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America (oh, those backpack trips!) and the Kiwanis Service Award. He was an active participant in the Bothell United Methodist Church in leadership roles.

He was modest, had a fine sense of humor, had firm convictions, and was both an inspiration and an incomparable preceptor to literally hundreds of young people all over the world. He was fun to be around—we shall miss him.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the AAAP Foundation (to further strengthen the preceptorship program) or to the charity of choice.