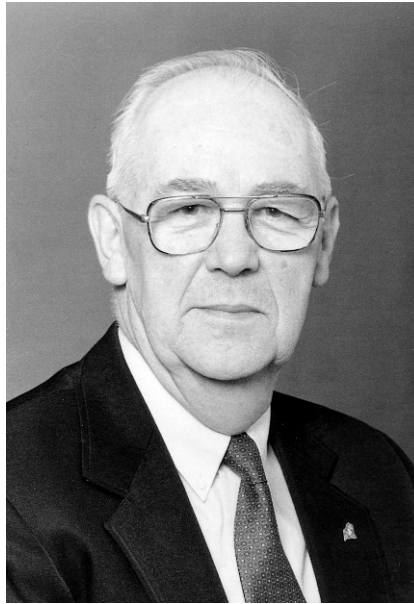


Obituary



Harold L. Chute
1921–2008

Harold L. Chute, 87, died on September 11, 2008, in Orono, ME. He was born on September 4, 1921, in Winnipeg, MB, Canada, but soon relocated with his family to Nova Scotia, where he was raised on a small farm and attended Nova Scotia Agricultural College. He received the D.V.M. degree from Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, in 1949 and joined the faculty of the University of Maine the same year. Subsequently, while still employed by the University of Maine, he earned the M.S. degree in pathology from Ohio State University in 1952 and the D.V.Sc degree from the University of Toronto in 1955. In 1947 he married Marion Berniece Baker, also from Nova Scotia. They had three children, all of whom were raised in Orono, ME.

Harold worked in the field of avian medicine at the University of Maine for about 20 years, focusing his efforts on teaching, diagnostics, and developing what was then considered a world-class research program. His personal research focused on mycotic diseases, in which he was ultimately acknowledged to be a world expert. He also pioneered the use of specific-pathogen-free housing for commercial broiler flocks to control *Mycoplasma* and other infections. He was in charge of the Pullorum-Typhoid testing service from 1959–1969. He was appointed a full professor in 1975, just 2 years after the Department of Animal Pathology was established. He worked closely with the Maine broiler industry during a period when it was becoming an economic force in the state and in the region.

He was not only one of the original members of the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP), accepted at the Philadelphia meeting in 1958, but he also participated actively in the creation of the organization. He was secretary of the organizing committee, which created the draft constitution. He served as vice-president in 1962–1963 and as the sixth president of AAAP in 1963–1964. Harold served on many AAAP committees and continued to attend AVMA-AAAP meetings well into his later years. He was elected as a life member of AAAP in 1993. He also served on the first editorial board of *Avian Diseases* in 1959, appointed by the first editor, Dr. P.P. Levine. He was also a long time delegate to the AVMA for the State of Maine Veterinary Medical Association, where he was a past president and long-time member.

In 1968 Harold left his avian medicine responsibilities at the University of Maine and became a development officer for the university, serving in this capacity about 9 years. In 1977 he formed and served as president of Chute Chemical Company in Bangor, ME. This company manufactured over 200 chemical products for a variety of industries. The company was sold in 1995, after which Harold and his wife, Marion, could truly commence their retirement.

Throughout his tenure in fund raising and chemical production, Harold continued his original interests in veterinary medicine and avian diseases. He was a life member and past president of the American Association of Laboratory Diagnosticians, receiving the prestigious Pope Award from this organization. He was a true entrepreneur who enjoyed the challenges of real estate investment and business opportunities wherever they could be found. After acquiring United States citizenship, he ventured into local politics. He was an active member of the Maine 4-H Foundation. He was a life-long member of the Masonic Fraternity, serving as Grand Master for the State of Maine and as Potentate of Anah Temple and receiving numerous honors and accolades for his service. He also received an honorary doctorate from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia.

He had many philanthropic interests, including the Bangor Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Center.

Harold had a distinguished and successful career, spanning a variety of different fields. He never really left his original interest in avian medicine, the field to which he had contributed in so many ways. His life is documented more completely in a biography available on the AAAP website.