Donald Eugene “Curly” Wohlschlag, professor emeritus of marine science, died on May 15, 2007. He was 88.

Professor Wohlschlag received his B.S. in chemistry from Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio, in 1940. He received his Ph.D. in zoology, in 1949, from Indiana University. Before coming to UT, Dr. Wohlschlag taught ecology, limnology, biometry, and population dynamics at Stanford University from 1949-1965. He came to The University of Texas’ Marine Science Institute where he served as director from 1965-1970. He retired from UT in 1986.

Dr. Wohlschlag’s research took him to both the north and south poles. In the early 1950s, he studied the population dynamics of the whitefish in Arctic lakes. A few years later, in the mid-1950s, he directed the U.S. program in the Antarctic where he studied the respiratory metabolism of fish living below the ice pack in McMurdo Sound. At the UT Marine Science Institute, Dr. Wohlschlag looked at how environmental stress and swimming exercise affected metabolism in Texas Gulf Coast fishes including redfish, speckled trout, and red snapper.

In 1964, the U.S. Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names (US-ACAN) honored his work in the Antarctic with the naming of the Wohlschlag Bay. Other honors included winning the Oscar E. Sette Outstanding Marine Fishery Biologist award, in 1993; the Excellence in Fisheries Education award from the Texas chapter of the American Fisheries Society, in 1985; and the Antarctic Medal from the National Science Foundation, in 1966. He was a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in the Explorers Club, the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists, and the Arctic Institute of North America.

Dr. Wohlschlag married Elsie Marjorie Baker on June 5, 1943. They had three children: William, Nancy, and Sarah; and two grandchildren, Chris and Sabine. His daughter, Nancy, preceded him in death, and his wife, Majorie, died in January 2010.

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
Office of the General Faculty