

## Obituary

# Prof. Dr W. Storm van Leeuwen

Professor W. Storm van Leeuwen passed away on November 15th 2005 at the respectable age of 93 years. He had been one of the active participants in the endeavor to create the field of Electroencephalography as we know it today.

He started his career in physiology at Leiden University. In 1948, he studied as a Rockefeller fellow with Lord Adrian in Cambridge and W. Grey Walter in Bristol. In 1949, he established the department of Clinical Neurophysiology at Leiden University. In 1952, he also started a department at Utrecht University. In 1959, he became both head of this University department of EEG and Clinical Neurophysiology and director of the department of Brain Research of the Medical Physical Institute TNO. He always maintained a strong interest in combining experimental animal and clinical human research. In 1967, he was appointed Professor of Clinical Neurophysiology. Since, 1977 he was member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences.

His scientific work was directed at the study of evoked potentials, the origin of the alpha rhythm, computer analysis of the EEG and the relationship between EEG and behavior. He used novel techniques, such as miniature radiotelemetry for recording of depth EEG in moving animals and patients. His studies with depth electrodes found a clinical application in the treatment of patients with compulsive neurosis and drug resistant epilepsy.

He was one of the founders of the Dutch Society for Clinical Neurophysiology. Furthermore, he was very active in the international scene of Brain Research. He was one of the promoters of the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO). From 1961 to 1969 he was treasurer of the International Federation of Societies for Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology.

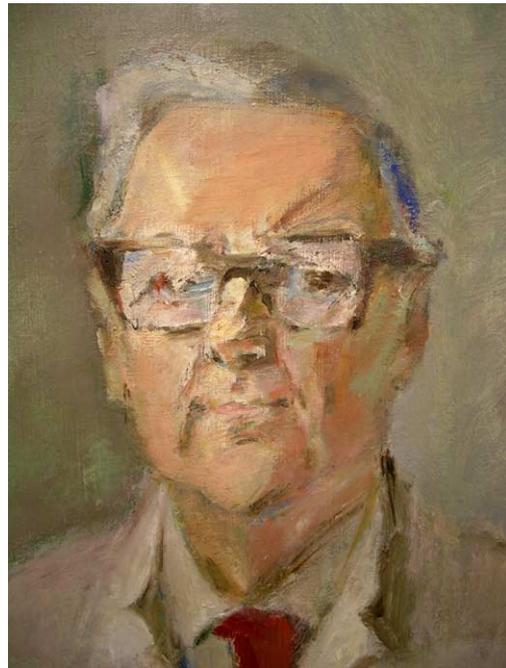
He was one of the pioneers who enthusiastically helped establish the 'EEG Journal' as the standard scientific journal of the field. He became the successor of Grey Walter, as coeditor concerned with papers from Europe. From 1956–1961, he was editor of this Journal.

He was president of the Terminology Committee of the IFCNS from 1957 to 1961, the committee that developed a

universal terminology for Clinical Neurophysiology, and a member of the Classification Committee of the International League against Epilepsy in 1964.

Storm van Leeuwen's work brought him numerous awards for his scientific achievements and his work in many national and international committees. He became honorary Editor of the Journal for EEG and *Clinical Neurophysiology*.

He will be remembered as a kind and modest man with extraordinary achievements as a doctor, a scientist, professor and especially as a mentor and a faithful friend.



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