

## **JOHN BADWEY, PhD**

August 4 1948 - July 14 2004

Dr. John Badwey of Fairhaven, MA, 54, died unexpectedly at his home on July 14, 2004. Born in Fall River, John attended Coyle High School in Taunton and graduated from Stonehill College in 1970 before his graduate work in biochemistry at UMass. John had a distinguished career in biochemistry as an associate professor at Harvard Medical School's Department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology.

For the past quarter century, since earning a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, John conducted cutting-edge research into how white blood cells fend off attacks from microbes. "He's one of the world-class investigators in the enzyme system that white blood cells have to generate the oxygen radicals that are responsible for killing microbes," said Charles Serhan, director of the Center for Experimental Therapeutics at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where Dr. Badwey worked as a research scientist. "His work focused on how the body defends itself from microbes."

John was well regarded in the scientific community, reviewing other microbiologists' grant proposals for the National Institutes of Health. As a biochemist on the faculty of Harvard Medical School, John specialized in studying infectious diseases. He became pre-eminent in his field of biochemistry and reached the top of the American science he was appointed to study sections at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control.

In 1988 with his move to Fairhaven permanently, John commuted into Boston. John served on the Fairhaven Board of Health, leading a public education campaign about West Nile virus and Lyme Disease. He was an active member of the town's Historical Society. John was never too serious to talk about his passion for the Red Sox or the Patriots or his love of fishing, particularly saltwater surfcasting. "He was a good and decent guy who had a lot of friends" his brother said. John was unmarried but had a longtime girlfriend.

John was survived by two brothers, Louis and Mark, his dear nieces Sabrina and Stefanie, all of Fairhaven; and two uncles, Ernest Hassey of Dartmouth and Victor of Florence, S.C. A funeral Mass was said at St. Anthony of the Desert Church in Fall River. Burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Fall River.

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