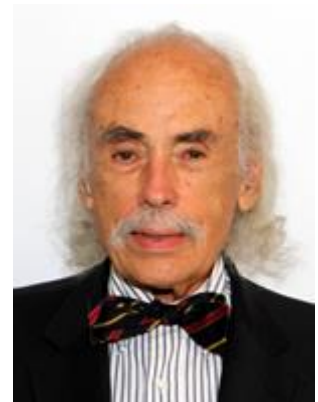


## In Memoriam: Lawrence D. Longo, MD (1926-2016)

Lawrence D. Longo, M.D., founder and director emeritus of the Center for Perinatal Biology, Bernard D. Briggs Distinguished Professor of Physiology and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Loma Linda University School of Medicine, passed away Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at the age of 89.

Widely known as an influential leader in the fields of developmental biology and physiology, maternal-fetal medicine and obstetrics/gynecology, Longo was internationally famous for the breadth of his research, for authoring or co-authoring 20 books and more than 350 articles in scientific publications and for mentoring thousands of students, many of whom became leading practitioners.



“Loma Linda and the research and scientific community at large have lost a giant,” said Roger Hadley, dean of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. “More than his long list of impressive credentials, it was unequivocally clear to anyone who knew him that he had a deep passion for integrating scientific knowledge into education, patient care, and research to make this world a better place.”

Richard H. Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health, presented Longo with the Loma Linda University Health Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2013 graduation ceremony for the University School of Medicine.

Born on October 11, 1926, in Los Angeles, California, the budding researcher attended Pacific Union College (PUC) in Angwin, California.

After graduating from PUC in 1949, Longo enrolled in the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University School of Medicine). When he graduated with the M.D. degree in 1954, he took an internship and residency at Los Angeles County Hospital, followed by a fellowship at University of California Los Angeles.

From 1959 to 1962, Longo served a stint of mission service for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ile Ife, Nigeria. Upon returning to the United States, he was convinced he could make his best contribution in the context of academic medicine rather than patient care.

With that in mind, he accepted a position as assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at UCLA in 1962. In 1964, he transferred to University of Pennsylvania to serve as assistant professor.

In 1968, Longo joined the Loma Linda University School of Medicine faculty. Five years later he established the Center for Perinatal Biology at Loma Linda University into one of the world’s leading research groups in the field of developmental physiology, and served as its founding Director from 1973 to 2012

His life was an extraordinary example of dedication and perseverance.