

Foreword

The death of Pierre Soupart in June 1981 was a great loss to his many friends and colleagues world-wide, as well as to the progress of fertilization research. Pierre's pioneering contributions to the study of fertilization in animals and in humans have left an indelible mark on this major area of biological research. In order to commemorate his life and work, this special issue of the *Journal of Andrology* has been prepared and is dedicated to him.

* We wish to thank Dr. Andrzej Bartke, Editor of the *Journal of Andrology*, for his advice and enthusiastic support.

Each of the papers in this issue relates to the topic of mammalian fertilization. The interest of the contributors in submitting papers specifically for this special issue, and the willingness of the many reviewers of those papers to devote their time, are in themselves indicative of the esteem in which Pierre was held. We hope that this issue will be a fitting and lasting tribute to the memory of a fine scientist and human being.

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