Rubin H. Flocks died May 17, 1975, at the age of 69 in the Rubin H. Flocks Prostatic Disease Center at the University of Iowa Hospitals after a short but painful illness.

Dr. Flocks received an A.B. degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1926 and an M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins Medical School in 1930. After completing his postgraduate surgical and urological training at Johns Hopkins and the University of Iowa, he was appointed to the staff of the Department of Urology at the University of Iowa in 1934. For the next 41 years, Dr. Flocks served the University Medical School and Hospitals.

Dr. Flocks exerted a profound influence upon all phases of medicine. His scientific contributions ranged from basic studies of the vascular supply of the prostate gland to careful technical studies of the art of transurethral prostatectomy. In the latter portion of his career, he became increasingly interested in the therapy of prostatic adenocarcinoma and was responsible not only for the application of interstitial irradiation with radioactive gold but also for a reawakening of the use of radiotherapy in the management of this cancer. He was the author of many textbooks and more than 150 scientific articles.

Dr. Flocks played a prominent role in raising and maintaining the standards of urological practice, serving on many committees of the American Urological Association, the American Medical Association, and the American College of Surgeons. He served on various certifying bodies responsible for postgraduate urological education. He was a member of the American Board of Urology from 1956 until his death and served as its president from 1963 to 1968.

Dr. Flocks served on the National Advisory Cancer Council from 1965 to 1969. He had a sense of urgency about the need for focused programs of research on the urological cancers, especially bladder and prostate. In late 1970, Dr. Flocks chaired two sessions of a Bladder-Prostate Study Group, which attempted to identify the significant problems in prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of bladder and prostatic cancers. Once the National Projects were established, Dr. Flocks served as Chairman of the Bladder-Prostate Advisory Committee, which provided a continuing review and evaluation of the progress of the developing Projects.

Dr. Flocks was often appealed to for counsel and advice. His recommendations were highly valued and appreciated since they were based on long experience and keen insight.

Impressive as these facts are, they fail to provide a complete picture of the man Rubin Flocks. His life was totally dedicated to medicine, medical education, teaching, and the care of patients. He was a man of vision with deep responsibility to all persons. His personal life seemed monastic at times, and he was oblivious to personal need, appearance, or comfort. Luxury, personal glory, and self-indulgence were foreign to him. He never accepted second best and instilled in others the need for persistent hard work, logical thinking, and unbiased, critical analysis of results. In short, he displayed the four virtues characteristic of a great human being: humility, respect, graciousness, and a sense of justice.

We are indebted to Dr. David A. Culp for supplying the picture and background information on the late Dr. Flocks.
Rubin H. Flocks: *In Memoriam*


Updated version  Access the most recent version of this article at: [http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/content/37/8_Part_2/2752.citation](http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/content/37/8_Part_2/2752.citation)

E-mail alerts  Sign up to receive free email-alerts related to this article or journal.

Reprints and Subscriptions  To order reprints of this article or to subscribe to the journal, contact the AACR Publications Department at pubs@aacr.org.

Permissions  To request permission to re-use all or part of this article, use this link [http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/content/37/8_Part_2/2752.citation](http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/content/37/8_Part_2/2752.citation).

Click on "Request Permissions" which will take you to the Copyright Clearance Center's (CCC) Rightslink site.