

# Jerome W. Sidman

*August 30, 1930 — June 21, 1958*

The untimely death of Professor Sidman on June 21, 1958, as the result of a tragic automobile accident, came as a great shock. His passing is a loss, not only to his loved ones, but to those of us who knew him as a friend. The loss of this young and brilliant mind will also be felt by the scientific community.

Professor Sidman was born in New York City on August 30, 1930. At an early age, his interests were directed toward science. He attended the Bronx High School of Science and from there went to New York University where he obtained an A.B. in Chemistry in 1951. He received an A.M. degree from Columbia University in 1952 and in that year moved to Berkeley, California to pursue further graduate work in Physical Chemistry at the University of California. At Berkeley, his brilliance was manifested by his outstanding record in academic studies and research. It was not unusual to find him leading a scientific discussion. His fellow graduate students cannot help but recall his amazing versatility of scientific interests. After receiving his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1955, he spent a year as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Rochester. Later, as a National Research Council Fellow, he attended Cambridge University in England to pursue theoretical studies. He joined the Chemistry Department staff at Cornell in 1957.

Professor Sidman's research interests were both experimental and theoretical. For the few years of his scientific career, he contributed many notable publications in the fields of molecular spectra and structure. Speculation concerning further contributions that he was to have made both as a teacher and scientist, leaves his colleagues and fellow scientists with an even more overwhelming sense of loss.

Aside from teaching and research, he had many other interests in the arts and was particularly fond of classical music. This was reflected, for instance, in his love for the recorder. Without taking formal lessons, he had already learned to play this instrument with considerable skill.

To those whose loss is the greatest, his wife, Luanne, his daughter, Jennifer, his mother, Mrs. Lillian Sidman, and other members of his family, we humbly extend our deepest sympathy.

*R. F. Porter, W. D. Cooke, A. C. Albrecht*