

## A Tribute to William “Bill” Field, Ph.D., M.S.

Members of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (the Board) wish to pay tribute to Dr. William “Bill” Field who died at the age of 68 from refractory mantle cell lymphoma on November 4, 2022. Bill was appointed to the Board by President Barack Obama in 2009.

Bill’s lifelong interest in the health effects of radiation began with his determination to measure the level of radioactive iodine released into the environment from Three Mile Island nuclear power plant nuclear accident in 1979. Bill worked as a Health Physicist for the University of California, Berkeley until he suffered disabling encephalopathy from an accidental, work-related exposure to multiple neurotoxins. Following the accident in 1986, Bill devoted himself to raising his twins as he convalesced. Through Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Bill started taking graduate classes at The University of Iowa in 1989 and completed his PhD in Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health in 1994. Bill joined the faculty at The University of Iowa in 1998. After his retirement in January 2022, Bill continued research on radon-related health effects as Professor of Clinical Reproductive Sciences, Columbia University, New York.

Bill is recognized internationally for his expertise in radon and radiation health effects. He served on other national and World Health Organization boards during his career. He established the Occupational Epidemiology Training Program at The University of Iowa College of Public Health. He worked with professional organizations to improve radon testing and to educate the public on health risks from radon. Above all, he was a compassionate mentor who delighted in guiding his students towards independent careers in public health.

The Board greatly benefitted from and will long remember Bill’s integrity, humor, kindness and warm softspoken manner, his chairing of work groups, and his good company during meetings. Bill made significant contributions to the ongoing work of the Board during his 12 years of service.

This tribute is hereby adopted this 8th day of December 2022, at the 149th meeting of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health in Saint Petersburg, Florida.