

## Lord Ernest Jackson Lawson Soulsby (1926–2017) – *pro memoria*

Zbigniew S. Pawłowski

Poznan Medical University, Poznan, Poland; e-mail: zpawlows@ump.edu.pl

With the death of Lord Soulsby the Veterinary and Medical Health societies have lost not only a famous parasitologist but also a unique internationally active academician and successful promoter of “One Health” idea. In particular Polish Parasitological Society and several Polish parasitologists have missed him as a long term friend, closely cooperating with Polish parasitology, growing in the years 1960–1990.

Born as a son of a farmer in Cumbria, close to Scotland, he has a hard and a long way to the highest positions in universities, parasitology research, global health initiatives and politics. He has no difficulties in solving the complicated problems being extremely well organised and due to his optimistic and friendly character. His smiling face and a charming ability to help awaited anyone at doors of his office, laboratory or home. He accepted easily the invitations to the meetings abroad or the conferences or working meetings with the friends. His well balanced opinions were seriously considered in many professional discussions.

After graduation in veterinary medicine in Edinburgh, he worked 10 years as a scientist in Cambridge University. He has improved his research abilities and international connections as a professor in Pennsylvania University in Philadelphia for 14 years. The American experience facilitated him to return as a professor of Animal Health to the Cambridge University for another 15 years.

The last 25 years he was also active in politics, chairing in 1998 the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee at the British Parliament. Well known as a World Health Organization expert both in the control of zoonoses and an antimicrobial resistance problem. As a talented teacher and



30 September 1996, meeting on the retirement of prof. Z. Pawłowski. On the left: Zbigniew and Janina Pawłowski, Lord Soulsby (from the family archive)

researcher he was a promoter of many doctoral degrees and awards, and initiator of several institutions promoting research and development. He was a founding member of a World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, which is successfully active for over 50 years now. His last legacy (2016) was the creation of Soulsby Foundation promoting the interest of younger generation in “One World – One Health”. The

details of his carrier one can easily find in Sheelagh Lloyd et al., recent publication in <http://veterinaryrecord.bjms.com> doi.10.1136/vr.j2379.

The last time I have seen Lord Soulsby was at my retirement party in Poznan in the year 1996 (photo), by chance we were both born the same year 1926.