

OBITUARIES

ALLAN HIRSCH

Environmental Firm Official

Allan Hirsch, 62, a former federal water pollution control official who was vice president for environmental sciences at Midwest Research Institute, an environmental research company, died of a heart attack Aug. 1 at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville. He had lived in Washington for 27 years.

Dr. Hirsch was vice president of Midwest Research for four years. Earlier in his career, he was president of Dynamac Corp., an environmental consulting company. He also had been director of the Environmental Protection Agency's office of federal activities, its office of environmental processes and effects research and its division of policy planning.

He also had been deputy director of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria; senior ecologist and chief of the office of biological services of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and director of the marine environmental protection office at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Dr. Hirsch also had been assistant commissioner of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration in the Interior Department; a program officer for the Public Health Service; executive secretary of a water management program in Ann Arbor, Mich.; a pollution biologist with the New Zealand Marine Department, and an aquatic biologist with the Public Health Service in Cincinnati.

He received the Interior Department's Distinguished Service Award, the EPA's Distinguished Career Award and the Presidential Silver Medal and Commendation for his work in formulating and negotiating the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes water quality agreement, considered a model in international pollution control.

Dr. Hirsch was born in New York. He was a graduate of Michigan State University, where he received a master's degree in zoology. He received a doctorate in natural resources planning from the University of Michigan. He also studied zoology at Canterbury University in New Zealand as a Fulbright scholar.

He served on scientific advisory boards at the EPA, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Wetlands Research Inc., and he published more than 50 papers on environmental science and management.

Survivors include his wife, Joanne Sonosky Hirsch, and two children, Jennifer and Daniel Hirsch, all of Washington; and a sister, Bernice Tabbat of Bronxville, N.Y.