Laboratory at Johnsville, Pennsylvania, and on the National Research Council Committee on Man in Space from 1957 to 1961. In 1961 Hardy joined the faculty of the Yale Medical School and accepted a position as director of the John B. Pierce Foundation Laboratory in New Haven. There he assembled a crossdisciplinary faculty and made that laboratory a world center of environmental physiology. He retired from both posts in 1974. Hardy was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1970.

As director of the research of a large number of graduate and postgraduate students, Hardy was especially proud of the many women who studied with him, a pride that was sometimes in amusing contradiction to rhetoric derived from his youth in Mississippi in the early years of the century.

ROBERT ADAIR
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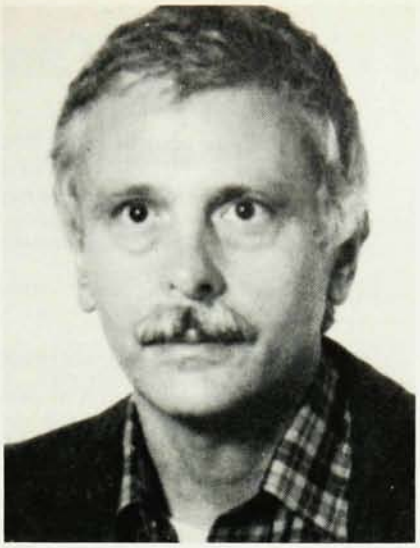
Ronald D. Parks

Ronald D. Parks, professor of physics at New York University, died on 17 April 1986, in New York City, after a yearlong illness. He was 51 years of age. With his death the physics community loses one of its most imaginative experimenters.

Born on 9 February 1935 in Kansas City, Kansas, Parks attended Kansas State University and graduated with highest honors in 1956. He went on to study physics at Stanford University, where he received his PhD in 1961. His dissertation focused on the competition between superconductivity and magnetism, an area to which he returned from time to time throughout his research career. While an NSF postdoctoral fellow at Stanford, Parks—along with his dissertation adviser William Little—elegantly demonstrated flux quantization in a multiply connected superconductor through resistivity measurements, a classic effect that now bears their names.

In 1962 Parks took a position as assistant professor of physics at the University of Rochester, where he remained until 1979. He was promoted to associate professor in 1965, and to professor in 1968. At Rochester, Parks and his graduate students established one of the world's most significant low-temperature research facilities. Twenty-five students received their PhDs from Rochester under Parks's supervision, and over 70% of his 143 publications were written with these students. His research initially centered on superconducting flux-quantization phenomena and the interactions between superconductivity and magnetism, but it later expanded to other areas such as phase transitions in magnetic and liquid metallic systems, superconducting flux flow and superconducting fluctuations in one- and two-dimensional systems. He organized and edited the classic two-volume compendium *Superconductivity* (1969). In 1975 Parks began a major study of valence instabilities in rare-earth-based metallic systems. In 1976 he organized the first international conference on valence instabilities in Rochester, from which he edited the pacesetting *Valence Instabilities and Related Phenomena* the following year.



PARKS

Moving to the Polytechnic Institute of New York in 1979 to head the physics department, Parks began research on surface phenomena, performing several important photoemission studies on mixed-valence systems and supervising three dissertations dealing with ternary Eu- and Ce-based systems. Parks was one of the first to recognize the importance of superconductivity in $CeCu_2Si_2$ and of the emerging field of heavy-fermion systems. In 1984 he took a position as professor at New York University, where he continued working, in spite of deteriorating health, until about a month before his death.

Parks will be remembered for his remarkable spirit of invention, imagination and whimsy, and he will be greatly missed. He communicated to his students the excitement and fun of laboratory work.

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