

His Legacy makes it personal.

Scientists make it happen.

You make it possible.



His Mission Lives On.

Finding the Cure for Merkel Cell Carcinoma

Jerry Wachter
Photographer,
Baltimore Orioles



Celebrating 60 Years of Cancer Research

Remembering Jerry Wachter

Jerry Wachter was a Baltimore native and renowned sports photographer whose love of photography began while in middle school. He developed his art over 35 years as the official photographer for the Baltimore Orioles baseball club. In addition to baseball, he covered NBA, NHL, and NFL games, PGA Tour events, and international ice skating competitions. Known for his unique portrait and action shots, Jerry also worked with the Topps Company for 36 years creating photographs for sports cards. In addition over 30 of his photographs were published as covers for *Sports Illustrated* magazine.

Jerry's career was highlighted by many spectacular experiences including documenting Cal Ripken throughout Cal's career, as well as photographing other legends such as Eddie Murray, Boog Powell and Brooks Robinson.

"Jerry was a fixture at Memorial Stadium and Camden Yards and his photographs captured the rich history of Orioles baseball," said former shortstop Cal Ripken Jr. "At nearly every memorable moment of my career, I can remember Jerry being there and photographing every moment. He is a member of the Orioles family who will be missed, but his memory will live on through his work."

Fearless and energetic, Jerry did not let his 2003 cancer diagnosis stop him from doing what he loved. He continued to photograph the Orioles through the 2005 season until his death in November of 2005.

While undergoing treatment for merkel cell carcinoma, a rare and often terminal form of cancer, Jerry and his family recognized the need for increased research and education for people battling this particular type of cancer.

Given their outstanding and widely recognized research program, Jerry requested that all donations made on his behalf be given to the American Cancer Society. In order to honor Jerry's wishes, the Wachter family is now partnering with the Society to find a cure for this rare and life-threatening form of cancer. Together, we are committed to raising \$200,000 in 2006; your charitable contribution can help make Jerry's dream a reality.

For more information on Jerry's mission, please visit www.jwfund.org.



Jerry Wachter and Cal Ripken Jr.



Jerry Wachter and San Francisco Giants manager Frank Robinson during spring training in Arizona in the early 1980's.

The American Cancer Society's Story and Progress

As the nation's largest private, not-for-profit source of funds for scientists studying cancer, the American Cancer Society focuses its funding on investigator-initiated, peer-reviewed proposals. This process ensures that scientists propose projects that they believe are ready to be tackled with the available knowledge and techniques, rather than working on projects designed by administrators who are far removed from the front lines of research. This intellectual freedom encourages discovery in areas that scientists believe are most likely to solve the problems of cancer.

Since 1946, the Society's Research Program has devoted more than \$2.8 billion to cancer research. By funding groundbreaking research, the American Cancer Society has contributed many important discoveries that have led to a better understanding of cancer and cancer treatment.

Below are just a few of the major cancer breakthroughs that the Society's funded-researchers played a key role in:

- Cancer chemotherapy
- Structure of DNA; Sequence of DNA
- The Pap Test
- Cure for childhood cancer
- Proof of effectiveness of mammography
- First gene cloned
- Bone marrow transplants



Nobel Laureates

The Society is justly proud of the 38 investigators it supported before they went on to win the Nobel Prize, considered the highest accolade any scientist can receive. This is a tribute to the American Cancer Society's Research Program and the strength of its peer-review process. These scientists range from James Watson, PhD, whose discovery with Francis Crick, MD, of the structure of DNA was the cornerstone of modern molecular biology, to E. Donnall Thomas, MD, the father of bone marrow transplantation.

The American Cancer Society Research Program

The research program focuses primarily on peer-reviewed projects initiated by beginning investigators working in leading medical and scientific institutions across the country. The research program consists of three components: extramural grants, intramural epidemiology and surveillance research, and the intramural behavioral research center.

Grant applications are ranked on the basis of merit by one of several discipline-specific Peer Review Committees, each of which is composed of 12-25 scientific advisors, or peers, who are experts in their fields. Stakeholders, individuals with a personal interest in cancer, are full voting members of the Council and all Peer Review Committees.

The **Council for Extramural Grants**, a committee of senior scientists, recommends funding based on:

- Relative merit of the applications;
- The amount of available funds; and
- The Society's objectives.

American Cancer Society Research *Saving Lives*

Drug	Discovery Year
5 fluorouracil	1958
Alimta	1958
Aminopterin	1947
Aromasin	
Avastin	2003
Bexxar	
BMS-354825	2004
Camptothecin and derivatives	1996
Celebrex	2000
Cyclosporins	
Doxorubicin and Daunorubicin	
Erbitux	2000
Gleevec	2001
Herceptin	1998
Interferon alpha	
Iressa	2003
Lenalidomide (Revlimid®)	2005
Letrozole	
Methotrexate	1947
Mylotarg	2000
Proscar	2003
Provenge	2005
Raloxifene	1999
Rituxan	1997
Tamoxifen	1974
Tarceva	
Taxol	1986
Thalidomide	2005
Trisenox	2000
Velcade	2003
Zevalin	2002

What is Merkel Cell Carcinoma?

Cancers of the skin are the most common of all cancers. While skin cancers are rarely lethal, two skin cancers—melanoma and Merkel Cell carcinoma—account for most skin cancer deaths.

Currently, melanoma is much more commonly found than Merkel Cell carcinoma. As such, although melanoma only accounts for 4% of skin cancer cases, it causes most skin cancer deaths (approximately 7700 people each year).

Although rare, Merkel Cell carcinoma (MCC), or neuroendocrine cancer of the skin, is becoming much more common. This form of cancer is often quite aggressive. In this cancer, malignant cells are found on or just beneath the skin and hair follicles, and then spread through the body. The disease typically occurs in whites between the ages of 60 and 80 years old, with a history of extensive sun exposure.

Since Merkel Cell carcinoma can be quite lethal, prompt aggressive treatment is warranted and research is still desperately needed. This uncommon form of cancer carries a poor prognosis with roughly 400-500 cases per year in the United States, thus making it about 100 times less common but potentially more dangerous than melanoma.

In a mission to increase, research, education and support for people battling cancer, the family of sports photographer, Jerry Wachter, is seeking your charitable contribution that would address this rare form of cancer. This disease took Jerry's life in November 2005, at the age of 61.

