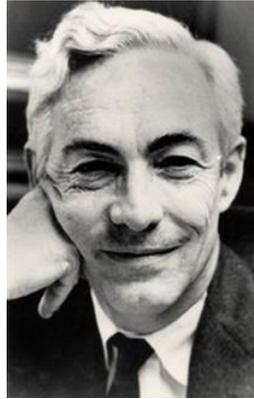


In Memoriam 2014 - 2015

The Academy honors the memory of those in our ABMR family we lost this past year. These four individuals were all visionary leaders who illustrate how we can use our science to make a broad and lasting impact on the health and lives of patients and the population as a whole. We remember them and honor them for their work, and hope to emulate their service and dedication to our field.

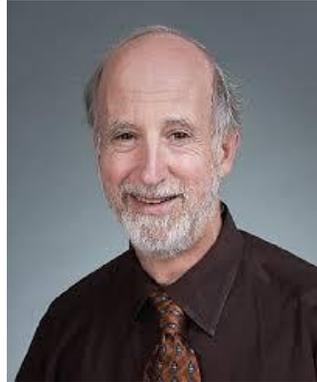


Albert (Mickey) Stunkard (1922 – 2014) was a pioneer and a giant in research on eating behavior. He truly defined the field of obesity research at a time when it was not recognized as the public health problem it is today. He was a visionary in so many ways: he showed that some people are genetically predisposed to becoming obese, was the first to identify binge eating as a medical disorder, one of the first to link obesity to socioeconomic factors, and importantly, one of the first medical professionals to condemn the stigmatization of overweight people. He was an early President of ABMR, and his impact was enormous and lasting.

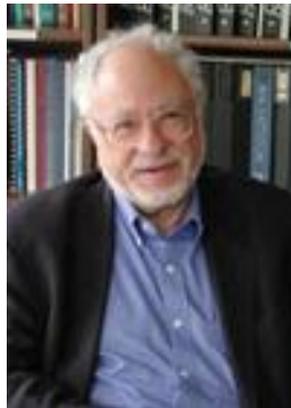


Jessie Gruman (1953 – 2014), beloved wife of ABMR member Richard Sloan, was President and Founder of the Center for Advancing Health. She was a social psychologist by training, and a leading advocate for what is now commonly referred to as “patient-centered care” – another visionary in that she saw the importance of that concept long before it was recognized by entities like PCORI and others. A cancer patient herself, she worked at the forefront of studying patient decision-making processes and championing patient empowerment. She has been described by colleagues as intellectually brilliant and

impatient, and it was that impatience that led her demand more of the medical system in taking patients' needs into account. She was truly inspiring, dedicated, and courageous, and her work & life have undoubtedly led to many positive changes in the way chronic illness is viewed and treated.



Wayne Katon (1950 – 2015) made an enormous impact and contribution to the field of mental health by developing and testing over several decades models of care designed to make mental health care more accessible. He developed the Collaborative Care model of intervention for depression, and showed that a collaborative intervention involving teams of individuals – psychiatrists working with primary care physicians, nurses, and others – could significantly improve outcomes for patients with depression & chronic illness, such as diabetes and heart disease. This work which integrated mental health & primary care, has been implemented around the nation and indeed the world, and has meant the difference between receiving no or limited care for individuals with depression and other mental illnesses, and receiving care that enables remission of their conditions. His impact has been great.



Richard Suzman (1942 – 2015), who was Director of Behavioral and Social Research at the National Institute on Aging was also a social psychologist by training who demonstrated the influence and impact a federal civil servant can have on the health and well-being of the nation, and for that reason, he was a role model especially for those of us in the federal government. His most notable accomplishment was in creating the Health and Retirement Study, which was highly influential in its findings about health and medical care. He encouraged the rise of behavioral economics and was a major force in promoting the new common fund program, the science of behavior change. He was relentlessly dedicated to improving the public health and with his visionary leadership, he surely did.