

Some Notable People I Have Known

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(Chat with Jim Wynne and Nancy Greco)

Yorktown Heights, NY
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July 15, 2019 Auditorium

Richard L. Garwin is an IBM Fellow Emeritus at the T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Hts, NY, having retired in 1993 after 40+ years of service in IBM Research and its predecessor, the IBM Watson Laboratory at Columbia University, which he headed for a time. Dick Garwin was Director of Applied Research in the IBM Research Division 1965-6 and a member of the Corporate Technical Committee in 1970. He has been issued 50 U.S. patents, most of them assigned to IBM. Hundreds of his policy-oriented papers and speeches are available on the Garwin Archive, at www.fas.org/RLG/ His patents are best searched at <https://patents.google.com/> and his technical papers via <https://scholar.google.com/>

Dick Garwin has had two other careers, simultaneously with his at IBM, as a result of an IBM employment contract that specified that he could use 1/3 of this IBM time to work with the U.S. government on matters of technology and national security. He worked each summer at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory 1950-8 on nuclear weapons and nuclear-weapon testing. During and after his IBM career 1952-1993, he was a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee (PSAC), for which he chaired the Military Aircraft Panel the Naval Warfare Panel and similar panels. He served from about 1957 -73 on PSAC' Strategic Military Panel and from 1960-73 on the Panel on Overhead Reconnaissance, headed by Edwin H. Land, inventor of Polaroid polarizing sheet and of Polaroid instant photography.

Garwin was born in Cleveland, Ohio, where he graduated in 1944 from Cleveland Heights High School, in 1947 from Case Institute of Technology. In 1947 he married Lois E. Levy and moved with her to his graduate fellowship in Physics at the University of Chicago. There he obtained his Ph.D. in Physics in December, 1949, with Enrico Fermi as his thesis advisor. He was appointed to the Physics faculty at Chicago as Instructor and then Assistant Professor, working with the 100-MeV betatron and then the 450-MeV synchrocyclotron, where he invented several of the basic technologies used for decades in particle physics research.

In 1996 he was awarded the Enrico Fermi Award by the President and the Department of Energy, and also the R.V. Jones Award for Scientific Intelligence by the Central Intelligence Agency. In 2000 he was named one of ten Founders of Overhead Reconnaissance (of which he is one of two survivors), and in 2003 received from the President the National Medal of Science, and in 2016 the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He has long been a member of each of the National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. He was a founding member (1980) of the NAS Committee on International Security and Arms Control CISAC, and since 1966 of the JASON group of consultants to the U.S. government.

He will add his comments to those of Jim Wynne on several of the persons about whom Wynne will speak, plus Enrico Fermi, Laura Fermi, Harold M. Agnew, Leona Marshall, John von Neumann, Edward Teller, Eugene Wigner, Georges Charpak, Tsung-dao Lee, Chen-ning Yang, Maria Mayer, Chien-Shiung Wu, Thomas J. Watson, Jr, L.H. Thomas with W.J. Eckert, Wallace J. Eckert.



Enrico Fermi



Laura Fermi



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Agnew and a large barracuda, caught at Eniwetok during the 1954 Pacific nuclear test campaign. Photo credit: Los Alamos National Laboratory archives.

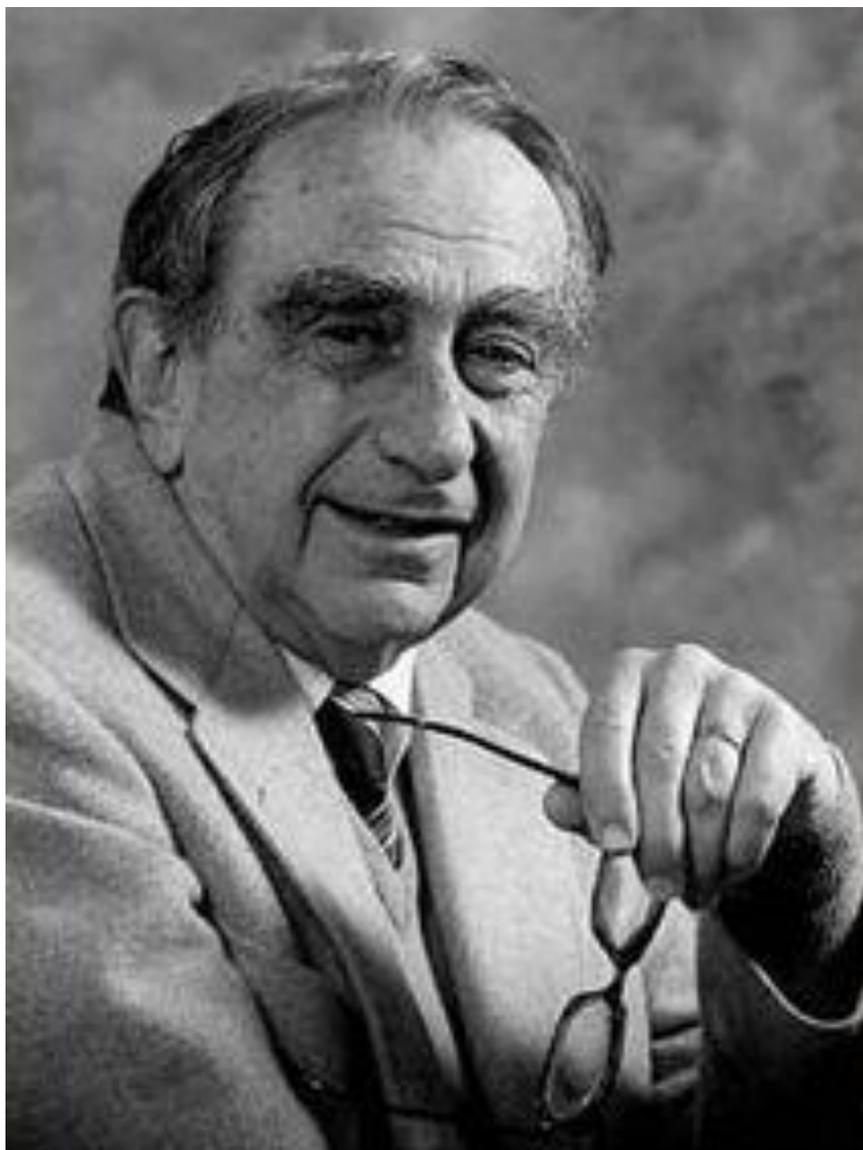
Harold M. Agnew



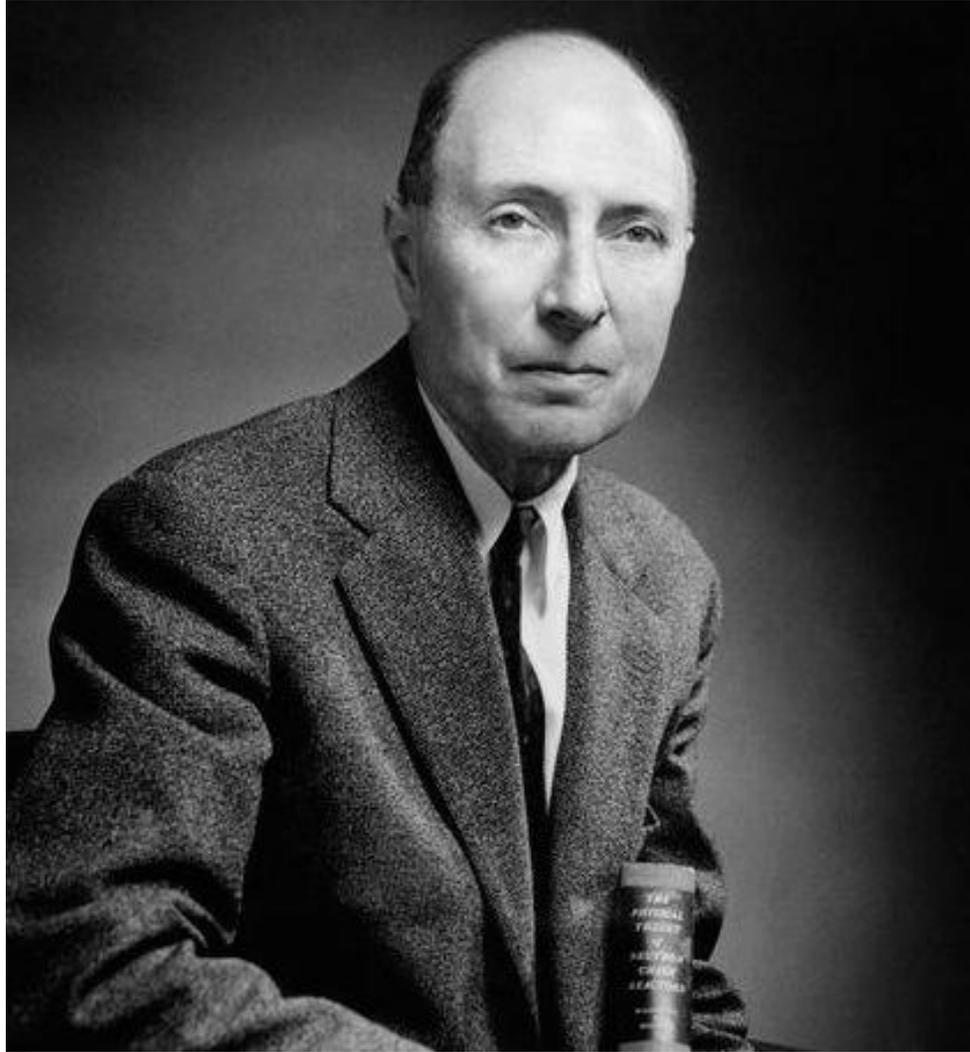
Leona Marshall



John von Neumann



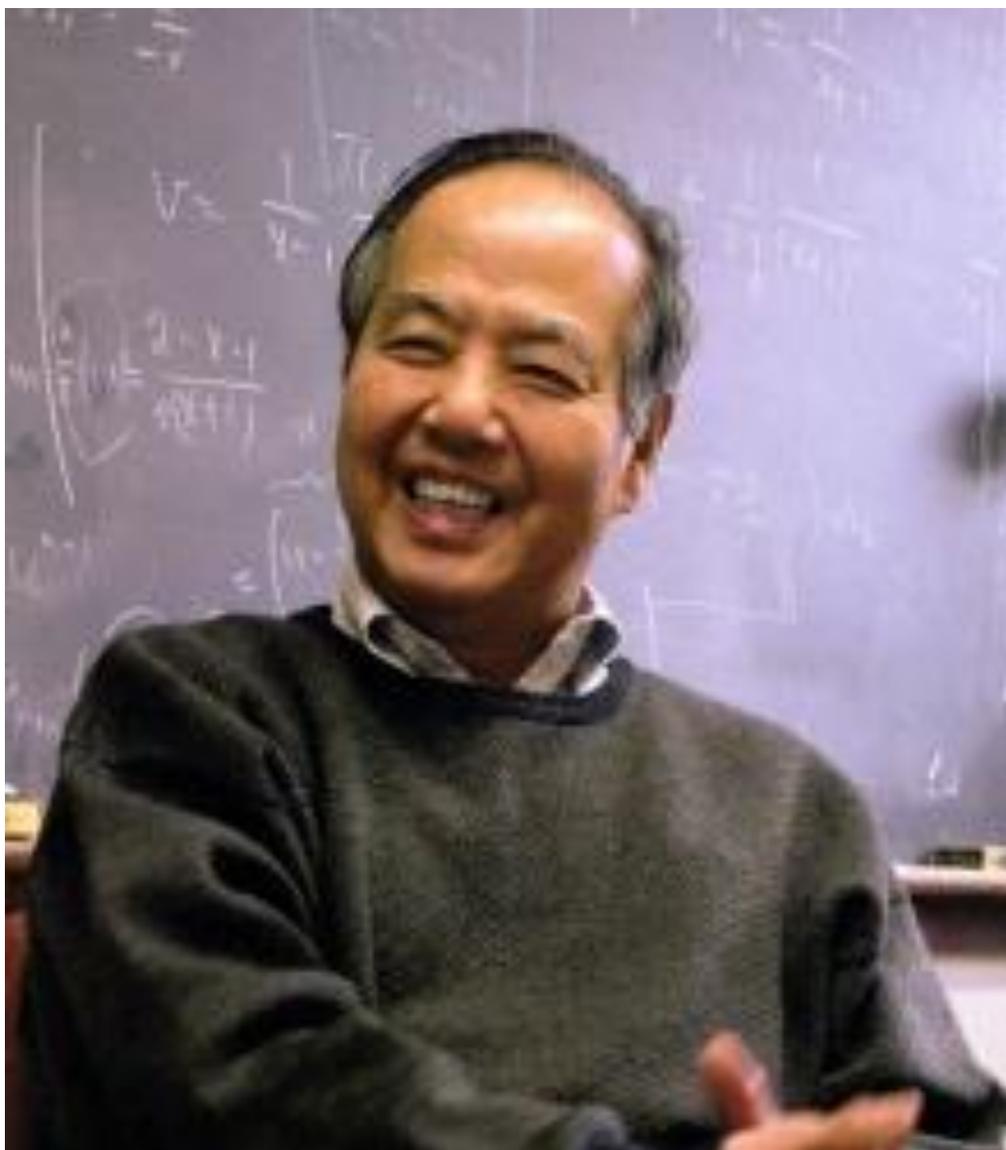
Edward Teller



Eugene Wigner

Georges Charpak





Tsung-Dao Lee



Maria G. Mayer



Chen-Ning Yang



Chien-Shiung Wu



Thomas J. Watson, Jr.



L.H. Thomas and Wallace J. Eckert



Wallace J. Eckert