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# Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy & Radiative Transfer

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## Editorial

### Peter Waterman and his scientific legacy

Peter C. Waterman, a giant figure in the theory of electromagnetic, acoustic, and elastic wave scattering, passed away on 3 June, 2012. In view of his fundamental contributions, which to a large degree have guided the progress of these disciplines over the past five decades [1–7] and affected profoundly the multifaceted research published in the *Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy and Radiative Transfer (JQSRT)*, we felt that it would be appropriate to solicit papers for a special issue of *JQSRT* commemorating Peter Waterman's scientific legacy. This initiative was endorsed by the *JQSRT* management and has resulted in a representative collection of high-quality papers which have undergone the same peer scrutiny as any paper submitted to *JQSRT*.

The special issue opens with a paper intended to summarize Peter Waterman's life and scientific accomplishments. It also tells the story of a previously unpublished manuscript of 1964 in which John Fikioris and Peter Waterman had anticipated what is now known as the superposition *T*-matrix method or the generalized Mie theory. After almost 50 years, this prophetic paper has finally found its true home in the special issue dedicated to one of its authors [8].

We appreciate generous and enthusiastic help provided by Karen Waterman, George Fikioris, Paul Martin, Gerhard Kristensson, and José Stoop. We are grateful to all authors for having contributed excellent papers on a relatively short notice and to anonymous referees for expeditious and rigorous reviews. We also thank *JQSRT* Editors-in-Chief M. Pinar Mengüç and Laurence S. Rothman for their support of this project. But most importantly, we express our sincere appreciation to Peter Waterman for his science and intellectual leadership without which this special issue would have not seen the light of day.

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