William J. Waddell led the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology as Professor and Chair with distinction from 1977 to 1997. He recruited an outstanding faculty and staff and the department experienced significant growth. He received both his A.B (chemistry) and his MD from the University of North Carolina. He held faculty appointments at the University of North Carolina and the University of Kentucky prior to his recruitment to the University of Louisville as Professor and Chair. Soon after his arrival, he initiated the change in Department name to Pharmacology and Toxicology. He served as President of the Association of Medical School Pharmacology Chairs, and the Ohio Valley Society of Toxicology. He led the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology’s hosting of the first joint meeting between the Society of Toxicology and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics held in Louisville. He was appointed professor and chair emeritus in 1997 and continued to be active in Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology activities to his death in 2014. A distinguished seminar series has been established in honor of Dr. Waddell.