

## Eulogy to John G. Bolton

We are gathered here to pay tribute to a very special man. I think that John Bolton will be remembered first and foremost for his contributions to astronomy and to human knowledge. He was *the* pioneer of extragalactic radio astronomy and therefore also the person who set off the great revolution in astronomy which has occupied the second half of the 20th century. In that revolution astronomers have studied, and opened up, the far regions of the Universe by discovering galaxies and objects of extremely high energy and luminosity.

Many will remember John for his days at the California Institute of Technology, where he not only injected new life into American radio astronomy—which was flagging at that time—but also inspired a group of graduate students who are now leaders in the field all over the world. And then of course we remember his directorship of his beloved Parkes Observatory, his astronomical contributions there, his leadership and the energy with which he threw himself into supporting the Apollo missions.

John was a man of very great determination. He had a leadership style all his own that demanded and got the absolute loyalty and support of his colleagues. He was very fair and very honest and he left behind him a band of disciples devoted to his memory.

It is a great pleasure and honour to have with us today John's wife, Letty. Dare I say that being John's partner in marriage may not always have been the easiest thing in the world—because of his single-minded intensity of purpose—but I do say that Letty was the perfect partner for him: always positive, always cheerful, always supportive. The fact that they had 45 years of happily married life speaks for itself.

And now we dedicate this plot of earth and this beautiful sundial to John's memory. Underneath the sundial lie his ashes. Let us commemorate it together by standing in silence for a short while.

Thank you.

J. P. Wild