



doi:10.1016/j.ultrasmedbio.2012.02.010

● *In Memoriam*

IN MEMORIAM: EDWARD D. “NED” LIGHT (1967–2011)

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Edward D. “Ned” Light, 44, a resident of Durham, North Carolina, died of cancer on December 16, 2011. Ned was born in Charlottesville, Virginia, son of William Richard “Bill” Light, Jr., and Sally Anne Rives Light. He earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in biomedical engineering from Duke University. Ned worked for 22 years at Duke, where he conducted pioneering research in real-time 3-D ultrasound imaging, in particular, the development of matrix array transducers for transthoracic, intracardiac and intravascular catheters, and endoscopic probes. He taught a dozen Ph.D.s how to build an array transducer and mentored a host of undergraduates both in the lab and in life skills. He jointly held four patents and co-authored dozens of papers. He was a member of IEEE, the US Fencing Association and the American Association of Woodturners.

Ned had a great talent for jury-rigging first prototypes of inventions. He conceived an autonomous ultrasound image-guided robot using only a computerized drill press, and developed complex transducer fixtures using garden twine. He was also known for igniting a passion for learning and motivating others to do more than they thought possible. As an undergraduate student, Ned took up the sport of fencing. Later, as a coach, he introduced many students to the joys and challenges of athletic competition, bringing humor to the endeavor while instilling intensity and integrity. He expressed his artistic creativity in woodworking, gardening, cooking and photography, and through the eye of his telescope, he enjoyed exploring the heavens. He will also be remembered for his bright smile.

Ned is survived by his wife Anne Smyrski Light, his daughter Erin DeJarnette Light, his father William Richard “Bill” Light, Jr., two brothers and seven nieces and nephews.

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