

The First 50 Years of George Barany

There once was a boy born in Hungary
Who was destined to a life of discovery.
In 1960 with his dad and his mother
He moved to the states with his younger brother.

In the Big Apple George and his family did thrive
But as a result, he never learned to drive.
At Stuyvesant High GB gained so much knowledge
That to no one's surprise he even skipped college.

Directly to Merrifield's lab did he go
Where he synthesized peptides with tremendous gusto.
He published his first paper in 1973
On a peptide that bound A-T-P.

He became quite an expert in acids organic
Indeed showed an interest most highly fanatic.
One look and you'll know he's not a slick dresser,
Which maybe is why he's a way-cool professor.

It was not very long before tenure he earned
And shortly thereafter for Barbara he yearned.
Soon Barb and George became quite a "thing"
And in no time at all they had two bright offspring.

Indeed does that George spend so much time kvelling
Over those along side him in life and in dwelling.
'bout music and sports and math of all sorts
And even at times over research cohorts.

He commissioned an opera 'bout peptides and angst
In which some musicians (and Barany kids) sangst.
And with it all taught many students organic
And wrote grant proposals in a state of great panic.

To his students and colleagues he offers great insight
So much that they made him Professor "McKnight."
He tells many jokes which make us take flight
But from George, we believe, it's really all right.

A half century old is really not bad
For there's lots more ahead for this husband and dad.
There's college for Michael and Deborah too
And weddings and grandkids, at least one or two.

This brings us to the end of this happy tale
About a very special Hungarian male.
So, let's raise our cokes and drink a toast
To the husband, father and friend we love the most!

Happy Birthday *George!*