

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Roberts, John D.

1918 -

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1944

PLACE: UCLA

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Young

discovered rearrangement of cyclopropylcarbinyl cation and studied the norbornyl cation; used Hammett sigma constants to understand substituent effects on reactivity; early advocate of MO calculations and NMR in organic chemistry; discovered cycloaddition route to substituted cyclobutanes; developed first computer programs to calculate NMR lineshapes; suggested benzyne mechanism for nucleophilic substitution of non-activated aryl halides.

1. *McGraw-Hill Modern Scientists and Engineers*; McGraw-Hill: 1980; vol. 3, p33-34.
2. *Chem. Eng. News* **1983**, 61(21), 32-33.
3. *Aldrichimica Acta* **1988**, 21, 71-77.
4. Personal communication (5Mar91) confirmed middle name is D.