

Autobiography of author Urs E. Nydegger, M.D. as of 2020

The author looks back on soon 80 years of an existence which began in the midst of world war II, in 1941. An elder brother welcomed him as much as his parents and in the suburbs of Bern, Switzerland's off-beat capital, where the main street changes its name a number of times in its short run through the old city (Georg Cantor, Knight News Service, The Boston Globe 1977), he went through high school where he finished in 1960 with the federal maturity certificate, type B with Latin. To follow study of medicine raising his curiosity in how life is made, he attended University of Bern: the first 2 years of a 7 yrs term were given to physics/biochemistry/botany/zoology/physiology, only then to be continued by clinical medical training. Presently, the author serves as medical consultant for the Medical Laboratories Dr. Risch, a Liechtenstein-based enterprise dedicated to excellence in clinical laboratory testing. Married and a father of two sons, he is an alumnus and Titular Professor of the University of Bern, where he was Head of the Blood Bank (1985-2001) and Head of Medical Research in the Cardiovascular Department (up to 2006). The author was educated at the University Hospitals of Bern and Geneva, and he is an alumnus of Harvard Medical School, Boston Massachusetts, USA, where he was mentored by professor K. Frank Austen, M.D., at the Robert B. Brigham Hospital (1976-1978). This training became the impetus for life-long studies on innate immunity and its therapeutic options using blood products. The authors' scientific contributions peak with a Citation Classic® on detection of circulating immune complexes and with ABO-histo-blood type incompatible transplantation. Urs Nydegger comes back from Zurich.