MARTIN FINCH PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY ON NOVEMBER 11, 2012, after many courageous and challenging years. He was an amazing example to all—of kindness, integrity, humility, and faith.

Marty, as he liked to be called, graduated in 1958 from Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with a bachelor of arts degree in biology and fine art. In 1959, Marty entered into the Massachusetts General Hospital, School of Medical Illustration, where he earned a Certificate of Medical Illustration in 1961. He trained under Ms. Muriel McLatchie Miller, Director of the Medical Art and Photography Department until his retirement in 1995. In 1977, he earned an master of arts degree in health care education from Central Michigan University.

During his time at the University of Minnesota, he attained the title of Associate Professor of the Medical Art and Photography Department until his retirement in 1995. In 1977, he earned an master of arts degree in health care education from Central Michigan University.

In 1980, Marty was elected AMI President. In 1982, he chaired the Professional Guidelines Committee and conducted and published an “AMI Salary Survey.” In 1983, Marty was elected AMI President.

In 1987, he served on the JBC Management Board and on the Local Host Committee for the Minneapolis meeting. At that time, the University of Minnesota Art Museum hosted a 25-year retrospective exhibition of his work, 2 works from this exhibition are included in the museum’s permanent collection.

Marty attended his first Association of Medical Illustrators (AMI) meeting in Detroit in 1962, became an Active Member in 1964, and, in 1988, a Charter Fellow. Over the years, he served on numerous committees, most notably, an ad hoc committee that was set up in 1972, to study the feasibility of having an executive director for the AMI. As a result of this ad hoc committee, the first Executive Director, Marvin Luste Associates, was hired by the Board of Governors.

In 1972, Marty was elected to the AMI Board. He held such positions as Recording Secretary (1973-1974), Chair of the Membership Committee (1973), and Vice-President (1978). In 1982, he chaired the Professional Guidelines Committee and conducted and published an "AMI Salary Survey." In 1983, Marty was elected AMI President.

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Marty illustrated and co-authored over 27 publications, gave 43 presentations, and illustrated 36 books, 32 book chapters, and 112 articles. Most notably in 1985, he received the American Medical Writers Association, first honorable mention for the Medical Writers Association, first honorable mention for the

In 2007, at the 62nd Annual Meeting of the AMI in Bozeman, Montana, Marty Finch was honored by accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award. Marty closed by saying, “In accepting this award, I believe that medical illustration has here and will continue to be a viable part of medical communications. As practitioners, we will continue to use both of our right and left brains, our talented hands, and emerging technologies. The AMI will continue to be responsive to change and will always need hardworking and dedicated volunteers, as well as forward-thinking leadership. The AMI has served me well throughout my career, giving me identity, a proud and noble tradition, and many valued friends.”

As one of Marty's final and most lasting contributions to medical education and research, he was the first illustrator to donate the collection of his life's work of original medical illustrations to the Vascular Access. Organ Donation and Transplantation, Manual of Vascular Access, Organ Donation and Transplantation, edited by Richard Simmons, Martin Finch, et al. (2 examples below).

To text written by Mike Bellagio and Maria Harwick.