

Carl Peter Sparrow

Bellport High School Class Of 1975



Carl was born and raised in Bellport. Both of his parents, Rhoda and Arnold Sparrow, worked at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. Carl attended public school in Bellport from kindergarten through 12th grade, except for 9th grade when he was in England with his family. At his high school graduation in 1975, he received the inaugural Math Award given by the math teachers of the school in recognition of his “delight in mathematics.” After graduating from Bellport High, Carl earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Brown University in 1979, and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1985. Following postdoctoral research at The University of California, San Diego, Carl joined the scientific staff at the Merck Research Laboratories in Rahway New Jersey. Carl rose through the ranks at Merck and held a variety of leadership roles, including managing large teams of diverse sets of scientists. During his research career, Carl published 53 papers in the refereed scientific literature, mostly focused on cholesterol and heart disease. Carl is now retired from the pharmaceutical industry, and is involved in multiple special projects in high school science education in New Jersey. Carl’s only child, Helen, will graduate with a degree in statistics from the University of Rochester in May 2020.