

December 15, 2015

To the CACM Editors,

We are submitting a contributed article that reviews the work and influence of the late John H. Holland, pioneer in the fields of evolutionary computation, machine learning, and complex systems. Holland died in October of this year, and, as his former students and longtime collaborators, we wrote this essay to highlight his many contributions to computer science (as well as other disciplines) and to trace his influence on the discipline.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Forrest  
Professor, Computer Science, University of New Mexico,  
[forrest@cs.pdx.edu](mailto:forrest@cs.pdx.edu)

Melanie Mitchell  
Professor, Computer Science, Portland State University  
[mm@pdx.edu](mailto:mm@pdx.edu)