Tom Duerig received his Ph.D. in Materials Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1979, then worked as a scientist at Brown-Boveri in Switzerland where he became involved with shape memory alloys. In 1983 he settled into Silicon Valley working for Raychem Corporation, unsuccessfully trying to commercialize that technology. Finally recognizing the fit with medical devices in 1991, he left Raychem and started Nitinol Devices and Components (NDC) where he developed self-expanding stents and other medical devices. In 1997 he sold NDC to Johnson and Johnson and remained a president of J&J until 2008, then purchasing back the assets of NDC that were no longer strategic to J&J. Tom remained as CEO of NDC until 2013 when he stepped down to devote more time to the underlying Nitinol technology, finally retiring in 2019. NDC (now named Confluent Medical Technologies) continues to be a highly successful, privately held company. Tom also co-founded the Shape Memory and Superelastic Technology (SMST) society and has written a novel, “Stan’s Leap.”