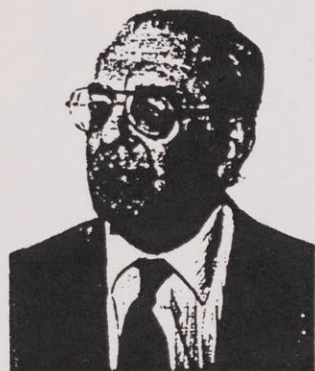


ABOUT THE AUTHOR



He was born in Brno Czechoslovakia on March 21, 1926. He received his undergraduate training at the Masaryk University, with special interest in Anatomy, Anthropology and Speleology. He received his M.D. degree at Yale medical School in 1952 - winning the Mosby prize, the James Hudson Brown Fellowship, and studied at the Woods Hole Marine Laboratory, Massachusetts. He obtained his surgery training under Owen

H. Wangensteen and C. Walton Lillehei at the University of Minnesota, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association and the National Institutes of Health. He received a Ph.D. degree and also an M.S. in physiology under Maurice B. Vissher in 1963. He was certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery.

Absolon was an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Minnesota, Associate Professor of Surgery at Southwestern Medical School, Dallas Texas and George Washington University, Washington, D.C. During his chairmanship at the Washington Hospital Center he founded open-heart surgery at the facility, as well as the transplantation and shock-trauma programs. He has since been the Academic Chairman of Surgery and Professor at the University of Illinois in Urbana and subsequently held a special expert appointment on the clinical application of heart assist devices at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Absolon has published over 150 studies in the area of clinical and academic surgery and some 500 abstracts or reviews. The scientific high points of his professional career are *the introduction of radioactive substrates in enzyme determinations (1952)*; *pioneering studies on coronary artery obstructive disease (by endarterectomy and internal mammary bypass 1955)*; *the heterotopic transplantation of the liver in children (1963)*; *vascular chest bypass operations*; *esophageal replacement*, for which he has gathered international recognition.

Absolon published or is coauthor of 12 books. He is the author of a four volume monograph, '*The Surgeon's Surgeon*', on nineteenth-century surgery and the founder of modern gastrointestinal surgery Theodor Billroth. (Volumes I-III, Coronado Press, Lawrence, KS, 1979- 1987, Volume IV by Kabel Publishers, Rockville, Md, 1988). The work was made into a documentary motion picture in 1988 and translated into German (to be published in 1989).

He has been a Visiting Professor and lecturer in the United States and abroad, including Yale, Minnesota, Michigan, Michigan State, St. Antonio, Buenos Aires, Greifswald, Berlin, London, Moscow, Paris, Prague, Bratislava, Brno, Vienna, Würzburg, Kiel, Riyadh and other universities. He has been the Harvey Lecturer at Yale, Fishbein Lecturer in Chicago, and was Vice President of the Academy of Arts and Sciences Inc., President of the Washington Medical History Society, Vice President of the Washington Metropolitan Thoracic and Cardiovascular Society, etc. He is a member of many professional societies here and abroad, and member of various advisory and editorial boards. Absolon is listed in the World Who's Who in Science, Who's Who in America, Author's Who's Who, Encyclopedia Britannica, and the like.