



Steven Wolff

Steven Wolff was born and raised in New York City. After graduating from Williams College as a Chemistry major in 1965, he went on to Yale University where he obtained a doctorate in Organic Chemistry with Harry Wasserman in 1970.

Since full-time jobs in chemistry were so difficult to obtain in 1970, Wolff took a post-doctoral position at the Squibb Institute for Medical Research in New Brunswick, NJ, and after a year, accepted a second post-doc at The Rockefeller University, where he was promoted to associate professor, primarily carrying out research (specifically mechanistic organic photochemistry), but also teaching and advising graduate students.

After 16 years of investigations in a rather esoteric field, Wolff was fortunate to obtain a position at Hoffmann-La Roche in Nutley, NJ, in 1987, which at the time was the major subsidiary of the Swiss pharma firm in Basel. The work at Roche was a refreshing change since it had the potential of being practical and beneficial.

Being at a large international company afforded him the chance to be a visiting scientist at Roche's headquarters in Basel from 1990-1992. Altogether he worked at Roche for 23 years, eventually becoming a Research Director. His position there enabled him to become a member of the Board of *Organic Syntheses* and the Editor of the 2003 volume. He also served on the American Chemical Society's Petroleum Research Fund Advisory Board.

After retiring in 2010, he moved with his wife Lynne to Carbondale, CO, a decision met by disbelief by his entire family and all his friends. Nevertheless, the relocation has proven to be an ideal place to retire because of the beauty of the landscape, the variety of outdoor activities, and the ease of parking.

These days, Wolff enjoys life in the Western Slope. He occasionally consults, volunteers for a few non-profit organizations including one that teaches English to immigrants, and is a jazz DJ on the local radio station. Still an inveterate New Yorker, he and his wife often return to the city to see their children and grandchildren.