DR. ROBERT HOLTON

A Timeline of Discovery & Legacy

YEAR	MILESTONE
1944	Born in Fayetteville, North Carolina; raised in Charlotte
1966	Arrives in Tallahassee for his chemistry doctorate at FSU
1985-86	Returns to FSU as faculty with Dr. Marie Krafft
1989	Begins the Taxol work; develops the semisynthetic process
DEC. 1993	Completes the total synthesis, first to publish its method
1990s	Process licensed to Bristol Myers Squibb; FSU royalties exceed $350M
FEB. 1998	Dr. Robert Holton and Dr. Marie Krafft buy the land on Meridian Road
2003	Taxol royalties fund a new $46M FSU chemistry laboratory
2023	Guest apartment built, the first building on the land
2007-2020	Main residence built over thirteen years
2015	Inducted into the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. Recognized for his pioneering work in the synthesis of Taxol. Dr. Holton was inducted alongside distinguished innovators, including Henry Ford and Nobel Prize-winning chemist Robert Grubbs.
2018	Elected Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. One of the highest professional distinctions awarded to academic inventors, recognizing Dr. Holton's exceptional contributions to scientific innovation, patented discoveries, and advancements that have had a lasting impact on society.
2025	Dr. Robert Holton passes away on May 21, at the age of 81