

# Harold W. Kroto Encyclopedia Article

## Harold W. Kroto

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# Harold W. Kroto

**1939-**

German-born English physicist who shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in chemistry for, the synthesis and discovery of fullerenes, a class of carbon molecules. Kroto's early interest in chemistry led to the important discovery of carbon chains in space and, later, to the synthesis of  $C_{60}$ , the chemical formula for buckminsterfullerene. Kroto is also a dedicated educator and graphic designer.