Paul Schutt founded Helix Camera while a graduate student at the University of Chicago, opening his first Helix store in 1964. Helix quickly became Nikon’s largest dealer for the Nikonos underwater camera, and an acclaimed global source for underwater photographic equipment, serving customers from Vladivostok, Russia to the Philippines and everywhere in between. His customers frequently became dive buddies and good friends. Over the decades, Paul ran numerous Helix dive trips, enjoying the trips for both his own photography as well as teaching others the art and technique of underwater photography. He was a wealth of information for even the most experienced photographers. He logged over 5,000 dives and cataloged over 200,000 underwater photos.

Paul was an early supporter of the Our World Underwater Scholarship Society and served several years as Chairman. He was also an avid conservationist and felt underwater photography was crucial in building awareness to preserve the world’s oceans.

The Paul L. Schutt Underwater Photography Internship, established by his wife Linda, is a tribute to Paul’s 50 years of Helix and his immense love of photography, especially underwater photography. Paul would be thrilled at this internship to help aspiring underwater photographers.