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PHOTO NO. 74-H-240  
Mariner 10-29 (Mercury)  
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The Mariner 10 television-Science Team has proposed the name "Kuiper" for this very conspicuous bright Mercury crater (top center) on the rim of a larger older crater. Prof. Gerard P. Kuiper, a pioneer in planetary astronomy and a member of the Mariner 10 TV team, died December 23, 1973, while the spacecraft was enroute to Venus and Mercury. Mariner took this picture from 88,450 kilometers (55,000 miles) some 2 1/2 hours before it passed Mercury on March 29. The bright-floored crater, 41 kilometers (25 miles) in diameter, is the center of a very large bright area which could be seen in pictures sent from Mariner 10 while Mercury was still more than two million miles distant. The larger crater is 80 kilometers (50 miles) across.

