

In Memorium

Edward Dapples, MS 1934, PhD 1939

Mr. Dapples of Peoria AZ, passed away on May 10, 2009 at the age of 102.

Robert Lincoln Maby, Jr., BS, 1947

Robert Maby, international geologist, geophysicist, petroleum engineer and amateur archaeologist died in Houston on February 3, 2009. Robert learned the “nuts and bolts” of the oil business while working for Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. in Oklahoma from 1951-1954. He went on to an illustrious career at the Arabian American Oil Company, (ARAMCO) from 1954-1982. He then became an International Consultant until his retirement in 2000. His expertise led to the discovery of the Cretaceous Orbitolina Limestone reservoir containing probable reserves of eight billion barrels of oil, and writing a definitive company manual on bottom-hole testing. The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SEPM) awarded him a Distinguished Lectureship, and he spoke throughout the U.S. and Western Europe. As a consultant, he worked on constructing a mathematical model of the world’s largest oilfield, participating in the planning of an extensive hands-on oil exhibit/museum in Saudi Arabia, and consulting with NASA and the U.S. Army Topographic Laboratory. His professional honors included: Fellow, Geological Society of America; Fellow, Geological Society of London; Fellow, Royal Geographical Society; Fellow, Explorers Club and Archaeological Institute of America (Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Houston Society of AIA).

William Goodier, BS 1948

Mr. Goodier, of Centennial, CO passed away in February 2009.

Harry E. Abendroth, MA 1953

Harry Abendroth, 93, of Madison, died on Nov. 28, 2009. Harry was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the 103rd Infantry Division from 1941-1946, was the recipient of the Bronze Star. While in our department he studied with Professor Eugene N. Cameron in the Bushveld Complex, and was invited as a special guest at the dedication of the

Eugene Cameron Electron Microprobe Lab in Weeks Hall in 2000. He was employed with Union Carbide until his retirement in 1978. His geological explorations took him all over the world, including South Africa, Alaska, Chile, India, Australia, Malaysia, Thailand, Portugal, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He settled in Madison in 1965 and also maintained the family farm home in Reeseville until the 1990s.

William Drescher, MS 1956

Mr. Drescher, of Madison, WI, passed away in February 2009. He was a hydrologist with the USGS, who taught graduate-level hydrology courses in the 1950s and 1960s.

L.L. “Bud” Flaten, BS 1957, MS 1959

L.L. “Bud” Flaten, of Midland, TX passed away at home on June 27, 2009. He was 75. He retired from a successful career as a geologist in 1992. He was a member of AAPG for more than 30 years. AAPG’s James P. Dulaney said of him, “Bud was one of the great guys that went out of his way to help countless young geologists learn the ropes during their formative years. He was both a friend and a role model, and will be remembered by a lot of geologists.”

Joseph J. Mancuso, MS 1957

Mr. Mancuso, of Bowling Green, OH, passed away on April 7, 2009.

Otto Kux, MS 1958

Mr. Kux, a geologist and former student of the late Lew Cline, passed away on August 9, 2009 in Tirol, Austria, where he resided. He was 79.

William E. Strange, Jr., PhD 1963

Bill Strange, Charles Town, WV, died May 10, 2009. He was 75. Former chief geodesist of the National Geodetic Survey, he was known as the “Father of CORS (the Continuously Operating Reference Stations, part of the GPS network used, among other things, to monitor the active deformation of the Earth’s crust)”. He will be remembered for his insight and vision of a nationwide system of GPS stations, which established the CORS network we know today. Strange received a BS in geology from Baylor

University in 1954. After working at Convair Aircraft and graduate work in geophysics, geology and mathematics at Texas A&M and Baylor, he came to our department. He followed Professor George Woollard to the University of Hawaii in 1963 where he continued graduate work and taught geophysics with a focus on gravity. In 1965, Strange headed the Gravity Division of the Army Map Service in Washington, D.C., before entering the private industry in 1966 where he worked for contractors on NASA programs on satellite geodesy and space geophysics. He joined the National Geodetic Survey in 1974 as chief of the gravity program. One of his jobs was to integrate the satellite Doppler and early VLBI (very long baseline interferometry) and satellite laser work with conventional work into the original NAD83 and its later upgrade, which took into account GPS. From the late 1980s until his retirement, he worked on GPS and its use in a geodetic reference system. His last few years were dedicated to getting CORS under way. Following his retirement in 1998, after more than 30 years as a geophysicist/geodesist, he remained active in the geodetic community.

Boyd N. Possin, BS 1970, MS (WRM) 1973, MS 1974

Mr. Possin passed away on Jan. 4, 2010, at home. He was 62. He had a long and successful career as a Registered Professional Geologist and Hydrogeologist. Early in his career he worked for environmental consulting firms. He was a senior consulting hydrogeologist the U.S. EPA assisting in developing operational standards for the Federal Superfund Program. He was past president of the Wisconsin Groundwater Association and the Alliance for Environmental Regulatory Communications. He was a member of the Association of Groundwater Scientists and Engineers and the Federation of Environmental Technologists. He founded the firm of Environmental Compliance Consultants, Inc. (ECCI) where he worked until his retirement. ●