



ARCHIVES

Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

July 2020; Volume XXXI, Number 3

P.H.S. Mid-COVID Edition

May you live in interesting times

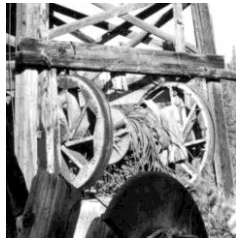
A message from your President and Archives Editor

We have all been feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has altered every aspect of our lives – both personal and professional. Many have speculated that given the long term implementation of social distancing and other health measures that we may never get back to “normal” in things like downtown office towers, transportation and even interactions with other individuals. While some have unfortunately adopted a “damn the torpedoes” attitude, most of us will try to do “what’s right” to control the spread of this insidious virus. We will soon see whether society can adapt to the new ways of life and working in ways that do not fundamentally undermine our standard of living.

The Petroleum History Society expects to resume operations in the Fall of 2020. Stay tuned. We shall meet again! Thanks for your continuing support. We have suspended requesting membership renewals until things return to the new “normal.”

In the meantime, please visit our website at www.petroleumhistory.ca and feast upon the voluminous material that is preserved there. Micky, whose creation this is, has provided instructions to guide you in searching for specific items or topics. Alternatively, just wander through the back issues of *Archives*, Doug Cass’s bibliography or Micky’s compilation of Old Companies. You are sure to find lots of interesting things.

The Bull Wheel



Call for contributions and speakers: The Petroleum History Society values your input. If you have an article that you'd like to see in *Archives* or if you have a talk that you'd like to give, please get a hold of us. Contact President Clint Tippet at the address indicated on page 3.

Free Student Memberships Available: The Petroleum History Society offers free membership to full-time students until the end of the year in which they graduate. They will receive the same benefits as regular members – *Archives* newsletters and invitations to our events. Membership applications are available at: www.petroleumhistory.ca/about/index.htm#join.

P.H.S. Election – March 2020: As you all know, we had to cancel the Annual Meeting previously scheduled for Wednesday, March 25. As a result the election of Board and Auditors was done through an e-mail notice sent out by Treasurer Micky Gulless. The slate of candidates that were put forward was acclaimed and is as follows:

President – Clinton Tippet

Vice-President – Bill McLellan

Past-President – Micky Gulless

Treasurer – Micky Gulless

Secretary – Ross Gourlay

Directors – Doug Cass, Penny Colton, Wayne Dwyer, Judy Frame, Ross Hicks, Ian Kirkland and Bradley Parkes

Auditors for 2020 – Tom Field and David Hargrave

Welcome back to our continuing Board members and welcome Bradley as a new Director.

Projects: The P.H.S. Board is open to suggestions for projects that support the preservation and communication of Canadian petroleum history. Some funds are available. Please take the initiative and send us a description of what you think should be undertaken or supported.

P.H.S. Awards for 2019: These were supposed to be announced and presented at the Annual Meeting but were deferred due to the shutdown. Please refer to page 4 for a tabulation of our award winners. They have been advised and their award plaques will be shipped to them.

Magnetic Pole: All individuals who have done field mapping know that the position of the magnetic North Pole is not the same as that of the rotational North Pole. It turns out that the magnetic pole - that has, up until recently been in the Canadian Arctic - is wandering quite rapidly toward Russia at a rate of about 50 km per year. So not just capital is fleeing Canada!

The Centennial Flame: This fixture on the front lawn of Canada's Parliament features the crests of Canada's provinces and territories. It symbolizes the unity of Canada and features a natural gas-fired flame. In May 2018 an article in the National Post described an initiative to terminate the use of natural gas and to replace it with "eco-friendly LED lights". This idea has not been pursued (yet) but it is worth noting that during the recent protests on Parliament Hill, including certain people taking the knee, that the flame was extinguished, presumably as a safety measure. Hopefully for our country this was not a symbolic act.

Anniversaries: Two organizations that are linked to the petroleum industry recently celebrated significant milestones. The Hudson's Bay Company marked its 350th birthday in 2020 - although without a lot of fanfare. Petroleum rights belonging to The Bay (Section 8 and $\frac{3}{4}$ of Section 26 in every Township) were systematically scattered over Western Canada and formed the nucleus of Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas (H.B.O.G.) that evolved through Dome Petroleum, Amoco and now BP. 2019 marked the 70th anniversary of the Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors. Both organizations have had significant challenges over the last few years but we hope that they will still be around to celebrate more anniversaries in the future.

Library Purging: A news feature from CTV about a Winnipeg library lifted the curtain on how decisions are made about keeping or getting rid of books so as to keep their collections "current". They use an Ohio Library Council approach with the acronym MUSTIE meaning that volumes are pitched if they are:

Misleading – factually inaccurate or misleading

Ugly – worn beyond mending, torn or otherwise damaged

Superseded – by another edition or by a better book on the topic

Trivial – poorly written or popular for only a short time

Irrelevant – to the needs and interests of the community

Elsewhere – the same information is available in another format or at other library locations

It is not too difficult to see how a person with an anti-petroleum bias could use this approach to rid a library of everything containing a positive spin on or even being neutral about our industry.

Ouch!: The American Association of Petroleum Geologists recently hosted a webinar on "The Energy Transition". It was led by Morgan Bazilian, Director of the Payne Institute. How fitting.

Editorial Comment: Please note that unless otherwise indicated, all contents of this newsletter have been created or assembled by P.H.S. President and *Archives* Editor Clinton Tippet.

Archives is published approximately eight times a year
by the Petroleum History Society for Society members.

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Back issues are archived on our website at <http://www.petroleumhistory.ca/>

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CITATIONS FOR 2019 PETROLEUM HISTORY SOCIETY AWARDS ANNOUNCED MARCH 25, 2020

Book of the Year Award for 2019 to Graham Taylor for:

“Imperial Standard – Imperial Oil, Exxon, and the Canadian Oil Industry from 1880”. Published by the University of Calgary Press. 368 p.

Article of the Year Award for 2019 to Hereward Longley for:

“Conflicting Interests: Development Politics and Environmental Regulation of the Alberta Oil Sands Industry, 1970-1980”.
Published in: *“Environment and History”*
by the White Horse Press.

**Multimedia Award for 2019 to Dylan Rhys Howard and Omar Mouallem,
Producers, for:**

“Digging in the Dirt”. Back Road Productions

Preservation Award for 2019 to Rick Green for:

The creation and operation of the Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre in Canmore, Alberta featuring multiple aspects of the History and Development of the Canadian Petroleum Industry.

Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019 to Dan Claypool for:

Dedication as a creator of and driver for the Canadian Petroleum Discovery Centre, subsequently the Leduc #1 Energy Discovery Centre, and now the Canadian Energy Museum, as well as for being a critical member of the Leduc/Devon Oilfield Historical Society.

Congratulations to all of our winners for 2019.

FLASHBACKS: PETROLEUM HISTORY SOCIETY 1997



The turnout for the March 19, 1997 Annual Meeting at the Calgary Professional Club on the upper level of the Hudson's Bay Building (referred to affectionately as the Linoleum Club and now a fitness centre). Attendees were treated to a talk by P.H.S. Member Don Weir on "Early Days at Princess" with a travel trailer on "Following Captain Cook". To the extent that they can be identified, these fine folks are: Back Row (L to R): Dave Organ, Vern Millard, Doug MacFarlane, Bev Pfeffer, David Finch, Aubrey Kerr, unknown, Edith Wenzel, Harry Carlyle, unknown, Micky Gulless, Ned Gilbert, John Andrichuk, Jack Browning, unknown, Bill McLellan (with drink), Frank Seeliger and Bob Erickson. Front Row (L to R): Andrew Bowman, Don Weir, Bill Tisdale, John Wall, unknown and Don Redman.

Below: P.H.S. Executive at the same meeting (L to R): Director Aubrey Kerr, Secretary Peter Savage, Treasurer Doug Cass, Past-President Micky Gulless, President Vern Millard, Vice-President Clint Tippet and Director Bill McLellan. Missing: Directors John Frey and Jack Porter.





OIL-INDUSTRY HISTORY

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The Annual Symposium of the Petroleum History Institute was held in St. John, New Brunswick on June 27-29, 2019. The most recent issue of Oil-Industry History, whose table of contents is shown above, contains a summary of the meeting as well as the abstracts from their sessions and an article about Canadian petroleum history as depicted in postal items. Readers are encouraged to consider joining the PHI. Google it – or contact Clint for details.



What a difference a few years makes! Boom and Bust. Same old story. Will we see a new boom? They say that the night is always darkest just before the dawn. Let's cross our fingers.

EARLY ENERGY CORRIDOR INITIATIVE

A book published in 1829 was recently offered for sale. Its title was *"Three Years in Canada: An Account of the Actual State of the Country in 1826-28"*. Its author, John MacTaggart, was a Scottish roadbuilder, surveyor, Clerk of the Works on the Rideau Canal, or as he put it, "Rummagen General of the Continental Water Communications". Surveying for the Rideau, through bush and swamp, MacTaggart was seized by the vision of this work as a part of a "Grand Canadian Canal" from Quebec to Lake Superior. From thence, "with little trouble they could pass through a notch in the Rockies" and go down Cook's Inlet to Nootka. Meanwhile, camping in a wigwam shanty with hemlock boughs, by the side of Dow's swamp, with a fire of dry cedar bark, MacTaggart and his party groped out the course of the Rideau Canal, living on pork roasted on wooden prongs, plenty of tea and bread, and weak grog. He envisioned a Canadian Encyclopedia which would include "Furrology" and "Stumpology". He envisaged also distilling maple syrup to "drive Yankee whisky into the lakes". *But at least he had the right idea!*

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HIGH RIVER PHOTOGRAPHERS

The following is extracted from an article entitled "The Lanes" concerning Lottie Lane that was published in a book called "My Neighbours and Yours" by Edith Wooliams. "When a log cabin is opened officially at Heritage Park as a saloon not many people will know it spent a lot of its life as a siding-covered photographer's studio in High River. It was a hotel and bar for a very short time. Ray Christie Lane was born in Cambelford, Ontario in 1889. He moved to Calgary with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John Lane in 1903. A childhood friend, Lottie Bartlett, lived across the street. Lottie finished school in Cambelford. Lottie and Ray were "just kids together" back east but in 1920 Lottie came all alone by train to marry Ray at his parent's home in Calgary. The next day they went to the Calgary Stampede. In his brother's old car with button down flaps they set off for their home in High River where Ray had established a photography business in 1911. Mrs. Lane settled right into the Western atmosphere. Lottie helped her husband in the studio by washing and drying pictures, often spending an eight hour day there. She travelled with him sometimes when he visited farms during threshing times to take pictures that were made into albums. He was a photographic instructor in the Royal Air Force during WWI. During WWII he took class pictures of the men who came to High River No. 5 E.F.T.S. (Elementary Flight Training School). During the oil boom he held contracts for photographic work. Photographs of Ray's have appeared in foremost British, American and Canadian periodicals. He was a specialist in scenic photography. His daughter Peggy also helped her dad in the studio and accompanied him on some of his trips. Ray made some excellent photos of Turner Valley oil wells, then coloured them. One Sunday in December 1943 Ray had gone downtown to the Ford garage to get the car to take the family for a drive. He fell dead at the garage of a heart attack. During Mr. Lane's funeral all business places in town were closed. Officers of No. 5 E.F.T.S. and the Canadian Legion formed a cortege led by the R.C.M.P. Lottie and Peggy kept the business going for some time but eventually sold it and the old equipment was dispersed."

The article says that the Lanes didn't know what became of the Turner Valley photos but some of them ended up in the Twin Cities Hotel in Longview where your editor photographed them including the one of the Coronation well test above. The Glenbow/U. of C. have others.

REMEMBRANCES

(with thanks to the Calgary Herald)

Given our delayed publication we have unfortunately created a long list of folks related to our industry who have passed away. While surveying the obituary pages in this regard, one sometimes notes items of interest. For example, possibly as a result of the legalization of marijuana, a couple of passings in the April 4, 2020 pages stood out. They were for a Mrs. Roach and a Mr. Weed.

Note that in the following, comments in italics are from the editor, generally adding a bit of P.H.S.-related commentary to the memorial.

One passing that we were not able to capture at the time was that of Smiley Raborn Jr. Our thanks to P.H.S. Member Bob Bott for pointing us to the following summary of Smiley's life and accomplishments:

RABORN, Smiley Jr. Born 1915 in Robeline, Louisiana, USA and passed away in 2018. Smiley graduated from Louisiana State University in 1939 with a degree in civil engineering. He married Bernice Romero in 1940 and they had three children, Francine (Bandy), Smiley and Suzanne. In the U.S. he was employed by Magnolia Petroleum (Mobil Oil) and Mayes Bevan Company. The Raborns moved to Calgary, Alberta in 1950 where he worked for Canadian Delhi Oil Company until 1980 (President and Chairman) and Cluff Oil Canada Ltd. He was a director of St. Joe Minerals Corporation, TransCanada Pipelines, Calgary Inn Limited, National Trust, and CFCN. Smiley was a member of the American Petroleum Institute, Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, Council for Business and the Arts, Canadian Gas Association, Ranchmen's Club, Calgary Chamber of Commerce and the Calgary Golf and Country Club; and was on the board of the Calgary Philharmonic, Canadian Petroleum Association, Calgary Region Arts Foundation and the Calgary Petroleum Club. He was inducted into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2003.

ALLAN, Phil. Born September 30, 1940 in Calgary, Alberta and passed away June 5, 2020. Phil was raised in Calgary and graduated from Crescent Heights High School. His grandkids thought it was hilarious that he was named "Class Romeo" in one of his yearbooks. He loved sports and played hockey, football and baseball. Phil and his wife started dating in Grade 12 and got married in 1964. They both grew up poor but smart. Phil became a chartered accountant and eventually became V.P. Finance for Pacific 66 (later PetroCan) by the age of 29. At 44, he swore off suits and the oil patch forever and bought into Tradex Supply - Barbecues Galore. Over the years he developed some weird health issues that compromised his lungs. Still, they travelled extensively and he continued to curl. His passion, though, was golf; he belonged to both Lynx Ridge and the Hamptons and looked forward to the golf, the companionship and the nineteenth tee. When his wife's memory started to fail a few years ago, Phil did what he always did and stepped up to care for her. Tired of being trapped in their seniors' home by COVID, Dad was thrilled to escape to Summerland where he spent his last days on Earth sitting outside, looking out at Lake Okanagan and having happy hours. Unfortunately, his heart and lungs gave out and he passed away quickly in the night.

ALMADI, Irvine Steve. Born in Drumheller, Alberta on April 23, 1934 and passed away on June 14, 2020. His career took him too many locations, but his heart remained in his hometown

of East Coulee, Alberta. Irv's father left Hungary in 1928 to settle in the Coulee where he worked as a coal miner. It took him five years to earn the money to bring his wife Margaret and daughter Helen to join him. Listening to Irv share stories of East Coulee was captivating for those lucky enough to hear them. They carried with them, the humour of a time when kids were free to roam the town and the hills. Irv's stories would have entertained W.O. Mitchell. In 1953, Irv and his Coulee friends set out to attend Oklahoma University. Irv met Luther Cunningham, a quintessential Texan who remained his kindred spirit to the end. Graduating in 1956 with his Petroleum Engineering degree he joined A.P.E.G.A. (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta). It was an apple core tossed by Laura at the handsome lad at Mount Royal College that led to a 62-year love affair and their marriage in 1958. Irv was proud of his two daughters Karen, a lawyer, and Kimberly, a science teacher. Irv's career was an adventure that took him from Virden, Manitoba, to Fort Saint John, B.C. where he met Bill Hunka. This friendship resulted in Irv and Laura moving to Port Dover, Ontario where Irv worked on an offshore drilling platform on Lake Erie. In 1963 Irv joined TransCanada Pipeline where he spent 16 years, becoming Manager of Operations, Alberta Supply. T.C.P.L. was a combination of work and play. Monthly trips to Toronto had a way of conveniently coinciding with C.F.L. games. Irv also travelled to Copenhagen, Denmark to consult with the Danish government as they were developing their oil and gas holdings in the North Sea. In 1979, Irv's entrepreneurial spirit led him to leave T.C.P.L. He established Almadi Resource Consultants Ltd. and was active until he retired in 1998. In 1970, Irv returned to his hometown of East Coulee with Kimberly. Sitting on the bank of the Red Deer River, Kim commented on how quiet it was, to which Irv replied, "It's the end of the Earth". Irv and Laura bought a run-down, weed infested property where Irv envisioned our cottage "WrenDee". The Hunka's purple school bus became home for a couple years as Irv and Laura built the cabin. The Coulee kept Irv busy in numerous ways. Locals enjoyed coming by to share time out on the deck with Mr. A.

BESSELL, Donald Hugh. Born in Calgary, Alberta on May 30, 1941 and passed away on April 10, 2020. Donald received all his formal education in Alberta. He graduated from U. of A. with a B.Comm. in 1964 and received his C.A. designation in 1966. This led to a successful career in public accounting, retiring from the position of C.O.O. and Deputy Chairman of KPMG. He received the F.C.A. designation from both Alberta and Ontario Institutes. Hugh felt strongly that one should give back to his profession and the community not just through donation but also by participation. His record of service started in university and continued well into retirement. Donald served on the executive of the Student's Union at U. of C., was a founding member, board member and President of the U. of C. Alumni Assoc. and member of the U. of C. Senate. Over the years he served on many boards and committees of his profession including the Institute of Chartered Accounts of Alberta serving as President (1982-83), the Board of Governors C.I.C.A., chair of committees of Education and Specialization, and member of the Legal Liability Task Force (1997-2000). Hugh was board member and Chairman of the Calgary Housing Authority and a member of the Advisory Council on Housing to Alberta Minister of Municipal Affairs. In retirement Hugh did consulting, expert witness assignments and served on the Board of Connacher Oil and Gas (Calgary), Wycliffe College (U. of T.) and Trillium Housing.

BEST, Dr. Edward (Ted) Willson. Born April 15, 1927 in Windsor, Ontario and passed away April 10, 2020. Ted was very proud to be the son of a "Home Boy", his dad having come to Canada from England as an orphaned indentured labourer at age 8, together with his 7 year-old brother. Ted met his wife-to-be, Bette, in high school. He went on to many educational successes. He received an Honours B.Sc. and the gold medal in Geology from the University of Western Ontario. He was then awarded fellowships, scholarships and bursaries to take his

Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin. Ted was the first person in his maternal or fraternal family to obtain a university degree, let alone two. He later attended Harvard Business School in the Advanced Management Program. After Ted completed his Ph.D., "T & B" (as we have called them for decades) packed up their meager belongings and drove to Calgary, as did many of their friends from university, all arriving in Alberta when the oil industry was burgeoning. They maintained these friendships for the next 60+ years. Ted also had many career successes, first starting out as a geologist and progressing through to Chief Geologist, various VP positions and ultimately President of BP Canada. After retiring from BP, he was a partner with Foster Research, consulting in Canada and internationally. From 1972 until 2010, Ted served as a Director for many provincial, national and international companies from B.C. to Newfoundland and S.E. Asia to Niger. In addition to his business activities, Ted was highly involved in industry associations, government committees and educational institutions, serving on a number as Chair or President. In recognition of his contributions, Ted was awarded the U. of C. President's Life Time International Achievement Award; was named an Honorary Member of both the Canadian Petroleum Association and the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and was elected to the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2000. In his spare time, Ted loved sports cars; cycling; competitive gardening (flowers and veggies); photography; bird watching; playing scrabble; hiking; squash; skiing; fishing; camping and watching his grandchildren's sporting activities or swimming with them at the Glencoe Club. His only failing was cooking. All he could ever make were bologna sandwiches on white bread with chunks of hard butter, which our family ate every weekend at the ski hill. T & B were extraordinary travellers. They seemingly have been everywhere, the more exotic the better - 70 countries and 7 continents. While some were just T on business trips, B accompanied him on many. Some of the most interesting (or exciting) adventures were driving a Range Rover through the Sand Sea in Libya; 3 month-long geology horse packing trips through the Rockies; staying in a tent camp in Iran; taking a dhow across the Persian Gulf to Abu Dhabi; being served monkey, snake and bear in China; being in Prague when the Russians invaded and then escaping in a freedom train; attempting to mediate a settlement between Jordan and Iraq; visiting polar bears in Churchill; fishing in the Arctic Ocean; working in Newfoundland before it was a province and then returning 40 years later for a camping trip; hitchhiking in Norway; travelling throughout China more than 30 years ago; feeding chimpanzees in Sumatra; visiting icebergs and penguins in Antarctica on a Russian trawler; photo trip to the Serengeti; snorkelling the Great Barrier Reef; shopping in Moroccan markets; following Marco Polo's Silk Route through all the "Stan's"; having his fortune told in Timbuktu; encountering native barricades in Copacabana and floods in Machu Picchu and being in the middle of a Birk's robbery in Montreal. Although not as exciting, but certainly enjoyable, most summers T & B took their family on a camping trip in Alberta or B.C., invariably coupled with bird watching and a side of geology. Hence, they all enjoy a good fault. T's successes would not have been possible without the 69 years of support from B. She supported them financially early in their marriage and then assumed the very heavy load of parenting four children (who were only 6 years apart) and looking after their home life while Ted was away for long periods for many years, at first doing field work and later a multitude of business trips.

CAIRNS, Evelyn Hilda. Born March 21, 1932 and passed away February 13, 2020. Ev was the second of four children and grew up on the family farm at Pine Lake. The family moved to Sylvan Lake in 1943 and it was there that she met the love of her life, Gord. They were wed in 1950 and shortly thereafter the young couple began "doodle-bugging" on a G.S.I. seismic crew that led them on many adventures throughout the southwestern United States and Canada where they met many of their lifelong friends. After four years in Edmonton the family permanently settled in the Fairview district of Calgary. Ev was a very outgoing, friendly person

who was always willing to help and cared for many people over the years. She loved to entertain and cooked up many delicious meals for family and friends. Having a very large extended family she had a knack of, and thoroughly enjoyed, keeping in touch with everyone no matter how far removed. The Ross family history became a passion that she shared with her sister leading them on an exciting trip to England and Scotland tracing family roots. Ev and Gord enjoyed many camping trips and reunions over the years with their favourite spot being Chain Lakes.

CARRUTHERS, John Howard. Born June 30, 1945 in Yellowknife, NWT and passed away February 28, 2020. The youngest of three children, John and his family moved to Riverdale Av. in southwest Calgary in 1946. Always a proud Calgarian, he made lifelong friends as he grew up with the city. He attended Strathcona School for Boys and Central High School, graduating in 1963. While at Central High, John was also a member of the Delta Rho fraternity. After high school, John attended Notre Dame University in Nelson, B.C. for two years before transferring to the University of Montana in Missoula. He graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and Economics in 1970. Shortly after graduating from university, John returned to Alberta and began working as a commercial loans officer with the TD bank in Edmonton. John's career in the oil and gas business started in 1973, when he was lured away from banking to join Exxon Mobil Corp. as a landman for its Alberta exploration group. He discovered a passion for the oil and gas business, leading him to a 42 year-long career. He continued his work in the sector with the Kerr McGee Corporation as the land manager in charge of Canadian land operations. John's independent and entrepreneurial spirit led him to found or co-found and assume leadership roles in several oil and gas companies including: Summit Resources (1979), Hillcrest Resources (1984), Lorrac Energy Inc./Tethys Energy Corp (1992), Encounter Energy Inc. (1997), and Avery Resources Inc. (2003). He retired in 2015 after working for several years sharing his expertise as a consultant in the energy sector.

John loved cars and always drove the best, including his favourites, Corvettes and Audis. John was a community builder and a proud board member of the Alberta Motor Association (A.M.A.) becoming Chairman of both the Regional and Provincial Boards. John also went on to represent Alberta as the provincial representative on the C.A.A. National Governance Board. Throughout his involvement in the A.M.A. John and Carol made many great friends. John's father Howard (W.H.) Carruthers was an A.M.A. board member and following in his father's footsteps was an enormous point of pride for John. As a tribute to his father, John restored Howard's classic 1964 Ford Thunderbird. John was an active man who loved the Glencoe Club and his many friends there. He was in his element while riding his bike along the Legacy Trail and the many bike paths in Calgary. His cycling friends were very special to him. John was a skilful skier, often tackling double black diamond slopes and challenging mogul courses well into his seventies. John, Carol and Peter enjoyed many years vacationing at their Lake Windermere home - time filled with boating, waterskiing and family time on the deck marvelling at the beauty of the Columbia Valley. Above all John's greatest source of pride and happiness was his close-knit family.

CHURCHWARD, John Robert Allen (Jack). Born January 20, 1929 in Lloydminster, SK and passed away January 13, 2020. Jack was born on his parents' farm in the middle of a prairie winter at the beginning of the Great Depression. This undoubtedly had a lot to do with his amazing work ethic and his boundless optimism. Jack began his career in the oil patch with Halliburton in 1945 at the age of 16. After many years with Halliburton and then Otis, Jack decided he needed to be his own boss, and started his own well testing company. Norward Energy was to become one of the most respected and successful Calgary-based service

companies with operations all over North America. The company was a testament to Jack's integrity. He was always up to a challenge but the challenges were not always technical. Jack was a proud Canadian but the National Energy Program of the first Trudeau government put Norward in a precarious position. With Jack's will and tenacity the company survived and prospered. After more than 50 years in the service business, Jack decided to sell his company to pursue other interests. These were to be the loves of his life, his partner Sylvia and his Canoe Cove 48, Whisper J. Jack loved politics but was very concerned with the direction the current Trudeau government has been taking the country. Ottawa's treatment of the Prairie Provinces was always on his mind as he watched what was happening to his beloved oil patch in Alberta. Jack was proudly independent and of sound mind to the end, and "slept in his own pajamas, in his own bed!" He would discuss with passion any and all current events.

DABBS, Frank. Born 1948 and passed away April 26, 2020.

The following is adapted from a tribute by Dan Singleton, Mountainview Today (Didsbury) courtesy of P.H.S. Director Ross Hicks and Member Gordon Jaremko.

Renowned journalist and author Frank Dabbs is being remembered as a man dedicated to informing the public and building community relationships over five decades of service. In a career that started in the mid-1970s, Dabbs wrote articles for many publications including Oilweek, The Albertan, Mountain View Gazette, Sundre Round Up, Olds Albertan, Innisfail Province, Carstairs Courier, Didsbury Review, Globe and Mail, Calgary Herald, Calgary Albertan, Alberta Venture, Calgary Magazine, Owen Sound Sun Times, Meaford Independent, Sun Media/QMI, and the United Church Observer. Murray Elliott is the publisher of The Albertan and group publisher of other Great West newspapers. "Frank was certainly a well-respected journalist," said Elliott. "He was well read, worked tirelessly and always did all the necessary research for his stories and columns." Dabbs also worked as a radio reporter, TV program host and in corporate communications with clients including the Liberal Party of Canada, TransCanada Pipelines, and National Public Relations.

Kerry Diotte was a fellow reporter with Dabbs at Alberta Report magazine in 1984. "He was very passionate about making sure that his stories were edited properly and had enough length and all of that," said Diotte. "I remember he would get into quite animated arguments with the editors. There would be heated words and it would usually end with him slamming the phone down and then he would immediately reach into his desk drawer and put on a blood pressure machine. He would pump it up and look at his blood pressure and grab for his pill bottles. That's how excited he would get." Dabbs was highly respected for his work at the magazine, he said.

Frank was the author of four books, and the editor of other publications. Two of his books – "*Ralph Klein: A Maverick Life*", published in 1995, and "*Preston Manning: Roots of Reform*", published in 1997 - are considered to be among the definitive biographies of those renowned politicians. Frank also wrote "*Branded by the Wind: the times and life of Bill Herron*" (2001).

Dabbs contributed to Manning's book "*Think Big*". In an Albertan interview, Manning said he had "a lot of respect" for Dabbs and his long career. "I knew him quite well," Manning said. "He had a long career writing on Western Canadian history. He made quite a contribution. It's sad that Frank is gone, but you can say that his words and insights will live on through his writings."

Alice Murray worked with Dabbs on Sundre Petroleum Operators' Group (S.P.O.G.) projects for many years. She called him a 'pioneer in the field' of community-industry relations and engagement. "Our community and communities all across Alberta who never even met him owe him a debt of gratitude for his work with creating the model for new development consultation for highly controversial projects," said Murray, formerly with Shell Caroline. "S.P.O.G. would never have achieved the amazing leaps forward in collaboration without him. "His methods were copied and emulated by synergy groups across the province. They just didn't create projects that were more palatable to communities, they created projects that were better, economically and environmentally."

A man of colourful and honest words, Frank Dabbs will be remembered and missed.

*Ross adds: Frank and I go back about forty years including our old Calgary Press Club days. Together we started an eclectic group of friends who liked to socialize (drink, tell lies and stuff) and being the visionary he was, he suggested the name **Friends of Friday**. It stuck and our group flourished for about twenty years until the younger crowd of journalists and PR people came along.*

Frank was a Director of the P.H.S. for a number of years before he uprooted himself and established a new abode in Ontario. There he did some interesting work on the exploitation of the oil shales of Craighleith in Gray County before returning to Alberta.

EDGINGTON, Antony (Tony) Norman. Born June 1, 1924 in Oxford, Oxon, England and passed away May 5, 2020. Tony was raised in England and served as a pilot in World War II. He met Eloise while training in the U.S. and she went to England to marry him at the end of the war. They returned to the U.S. where Tony got his degree from Missouri School of Mines in Rolla. After graduation he started working in the petroleum industry. In 1958 the family moved to Calgary where Tony started working for J.C. Sproule and Associates. After Dr. Sproule's death in 1970 Tony was appointed President, a position he held until his retirement in 1983. Tony got great enjoyment from gardening, fishing, skiing and hunting. He enjoyed travelling and socializing with his friends. He will be greatly missed. *Tony was a Lifetime Member of the P.H.S.*

FIELD, Leroy. Born May 13, 1931 and passed away February 21, 2020. *Leroy was a well-known member of Amoco's drilling department. He was a member of the P.H.S. Board for a number of years. Unfortunately his obituary was short on details which is a shame for someone who had quite a colourful life.*

FISCHER, Charlie W., C.M. Born in 1950 in Saskatchewan and passed away June 17, 2020.

The following is adapted from Charlie's profile that accompanied his induction into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2011:

For nearly 40 years, Charles Wayne Fischer crafted a career in the Canadian oil and gas industry that took him from the gas fields of central Alberta to the searing heat of the North African desert; from the frozen tundra of the Mackenzie Delta to the storm-tossed waters of the North Sea. Along the way, he made countless friends, but he stayed pretty much out of the public eye, even though his trademark handlebar mustache was as much a symbol of Nexen Inc. in the last eight years of his career as a similar facial adornment came to symbolize the powerhouse Calgary Flames of the late 1980s.

Like many who came to the Calgary-based oil and gas industry before him, Charlie was born one province to the east, in 1950, and took his schooling at the University of Calgary, graduating in 1971 with a degree in chemical engineering. Charlie's work history is familiar to most: he joined Dome Petroleum Limited the spring he graduated before moving on to Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas Company Ltd. in 1978. He joined Bow Valley Industries Ltd. as Vice-President in 1982 and, in 1988, moved to the TransCanada Corporation family as President and Chief Executive Officer of Encor Energy Corp., serving in that position until Encor was acquired by Talisman in the spring of 1993. In 1994, Charlie joined Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. as Vice-President, Exploration and Production for North America, and rose quickly through the ranks of CanOxy Corp., becoming Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer in 1997. He was named President and Chief Executive Officer of the renamed company Nexen in 2001, a post he held until his retirement at the end of 2008.

Having mentored at the elbows of such industry icons as Gerry Maier, Dick Haskayne and Daryl (Doc) Seaman, Charlie himself became a source of outstanding leadership, both within the industry and in helping those outside gain a better understanding of the industry. He served as Chairman of both the old Independent Petroleum Association of Canada and of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (C.A.P.P.), and in those capacities worked closely with government, regulators, the press and the public to ensure that the industry was properly understood.

One of those he worked closely with was Pierre Alvarez, former President of C.A.P.P., Chair of the Canadian Centre for Energy, and Nexen's Vice-President, Corporate Relations. "While many business halls of fame focus primarily on financial criteria ... the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame has always taken a slightly different path by ensuring that its honourees did not just keep score by profit margin, but used their success to improve the lives of the people they touched," Pierre wrote in a letter to the Hall supporting Charlie's nomination. "With that in mind, I can think of no better inductee than Charlie."

While Charlie took a short break after his retirement to examine his options, he wasn't out of the public eye for long. He has been co-chair of Alberta Climate Change Central and, in 2009, he was named to the board of Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation. In that same year the Energy Council of Canada named him Canadian Energy Person of the Year while the Alberta Chamber of Resources named him Resource Person of the Year.

Charlie has always been an active member of the community. He served two terms on the Board of Governors at his alma mater, the University of Calgary, and was Vice-Chair of that board. He has served for eight years on the Faculty of Management Advisory Council. At the Alberta Children's Hospital, Charlie served on the board for 12 years, including two as Chair. In addition to co-chairing a \$52-million fundraising campaign, he was instrumental in ensuring the government fulfilled its commitment to build the hospital in 2006, and Charlie and his wife, Joanne Cuthbertson, are prime funders of the Cuthbertson-Fischer Chair in Paediatric Mental Health. Charlie has also lent his support to a number of other organizations, including Hull Child and Family Services where he served as chair for two years, the Canada West Foundation where he was Vice-Chair, the Calgary Airport Authority, S.A.I.T. Polytechnic and Education Matters.

And from his obituary:

Charlie was a big presence - not just in his physical stature, but his presence in our lives and the life of this community. In our inexpressible sense of loss and our painful regret that he still had much to give to his family and his community, and we still had much to give him, we are ever grateful for Charlie's influence on each one of us. We will remember and hold dear his unconditional love and acceptance, his unwavering principles, his wish for us to succeed and his unfailing support for us to follow our individual paths, his humble needs, the fun he found in "being involved" - in learning, in interesting work, in recreation, in volunteering. We are grateful he was in our corner. "Charlie" to everyone, all who knew him experienced that consistent, accessible and comfortable character. He offered his friendly gaze and warm smile under his trademark handlebar moustache to one and all. It was with genuine affection that he welcomed people who crossed the street to talk to him. His uncomplicated good sense, quiet confidence, astute perception of human motivations, and disposition to never forget a lesson learned were readily accessible to anyone who came to him seeking his friendship or advice.

Charlie had a gift for finding common ground with everyone. He could befriend a cowboy, executive, student, environmentalist, politician, tour guide or grandchild because he cared to find what he and they had in common. Charlie had strong views and strong values, yes, but he developed solutions and got results by finding common ground. In Charlie's books, a solution meant that everyone could walk away from the table feeling they had been heard and were part of the solution. Charlie was a man who truly walked his talk. Guided unwaveringly by his principles and always a man of integrity, if Charlie saw a need for change, he rolled up his sleeves and set to work to make it better. He must have been born with a certain amount of this - at age six, he set out on his own to the hardware store to buy a saw for a construction project he had concocted. But as his experience and his reach grew, so too did the challenges he set out to improve. Charlie believed in the best of his community, the best of his industry, the best of his country, and the best of his friends, and with determination and great generosity of spirit he moved each closer to that vision.

To all who knew him, and the many who never met him but have been touched by his gifts, he was generous - with his time, his energy, his talents and his resources. His example has encouraged so many of us too to roll up our sleeves and do what we can with what we have.

[Chris Varcoe of the Calgary Herald wrote an article about Charlie](#) that was published in June 19, 2020. It adds detail and personal tributes.

GACEK, Walter Frank. Born June 26, 1926 in Winnipeg, Manitoba and passed away May 27, 2020. Walter received his early education in Winnipeg. After one year at the University of Manitoba, Wally attended the University of Michigan on a hockey scholarship where he received his Bachelor of Science and a Master's Degree in Petroleum Geology. Wally was nominated as an All American in 1948 and 1949, to the All-Time Michigan All-Star team for the past fifty years and to the Michigan Hall of Honor in 2006. After graduation Wally worked for Gulf Oil for thirty-five years achieving the position of Exploration Manager. He worked in Stettler, Pittsburgh, Red Deer and Calgary. After taking early retirement at the age of sixty, Wally worked for Canada North Energy as V.P. of Exploration for three years, which involved travelling to Europe and Asia. Wally had a great sense of humour and quick wit. He enjoyed golfing with his friends at Earl Grey, gardening and assisted Frankie with her farming operation. Family was very important to Wally. Wally, Frankie and family attended most wedding and anniversary

celebrations in Winnipeg, Stettler and Dawson Creek. Of all the activities Wally enjoyed going to dinner with his family and the celebrations at Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and birthdays. Vacations at Winnipeg Beach, Hawaii, Palm Desert and Europe, also cruising to the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Panama Canal and Alaska.

GILLESPIE, Fred Kenneth (Roy). Born October 14, 1927 in Calgary, Alberta and passed away June 4, 2020. Roy was the youngest of six children and grew up amidst the Great Depression. Starting at the age of ten, Roy worked hard to support his family and he proved that not all "smarts" in life come from having a post-secondary education. In the early 1960's, Roy got a job as a young Landman with Western Decalta Petroleum, mentored by Al Ross. Within a few years, Roy began to make his name in the emerging Calgary oil patch by scooping many land deals. TransAlta Oil and Gas Ltd. took notice and offered young Roy the chance to own a third of their company and become a Vice President in exchange for his legendary negotiating skills. There he formed a lifelong partnership with Georges Rostoker and later became the President of three successful oil companies from the early 1970's to the early 1990's - Cherokee Resources Limited, Bonanza Oil and Gas Ltd. and finally Excel Energy Inc. Roy was one of the legacy group of successful landmen in the early days of the Alberta oil industry. He was a member of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen for sixty-five years. He was the chairman of the Oilman's Golf Tournament in 1988 and the President of the Calgary Petroleum Club from 1991-1992. As a Director of the Calgary Stampeders Football Club in the 1970's, he forged a lifelong friendship with their G.M., Rogers Lehew. Roy was a long-time member of the Calgary Golf and Country Club. He had a passion for golf and all the camaraderie that went with it, enjoying a couple of holes-in-one along the way. Roy was married twice in his life; first to Mary in 1953, then to Boog in 1975. He was a proud dad to seven kids from those two marriages. He was a generous man who helped anybody in need, whether it was helping to build a house for a sibling, putting his kids through school or helping a son-in-law get his business going. No one ever got left behind. Handsome as a Hollywood movie star, he was a charming gentleman, always ready with an easy smile or a dad joke. He loved travelling with his family to Hawaii and Las Vegas, eating licorice allsorts, and dancing with all his girls. Roy and Boog's greatest joy was when their kids or grandkids visited them at the family home.

GLAISTER, Dr. R. Perry. Born January 10, 1929 and passed away June 6, 2020. Perry earned his Ph.D. from Northwestern University, had a long and successful career as an Exploration Research Geologist with Imperial Oil in Calgary and was co-editor of the comprehensive volume *"The Geological History of Western Canada"*. Active his entire life, Perry loved to hike, fly fish, garden, cross country ski, snorkel and woodwork. He also took every opportunity possible to explore the world with friends and family. *Perry was one of the most prominent "go to guys" for geological knowledge about the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin. This was due, in part, to the methodical way in which Imperial Oil – clearly the dominant player in the basin for many years - systematically tore apart its stratigraphy, structure and depositional environments in their search for successors to their early large pool discoveries at Norman Wells, Turner Valley, Leduc and Redwater. Perry was well known in the industry, in the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and in the academic community.*

GLENNIE, Ken. Born in 1926 and passed away November 2019. Ken's name is not one that most Canadians will be familiar with but he did spend part of his early career with us and should be mentioned. Ken joined Shell in 1954 and, after some early training and an assignment in New Zealand, was posted to Canada in 1959. He spent the next three years directing geological field operations in northern Canada during the summers and synthesizing the work in

the office. Ken went on to become a leader in the understanding of windborne sediments, based partly on his time spent in the deserts of Oman where he is sometimes referred to as the "Father of Oman's Geology". In 1984 he published *"Introduction to the Petroleum Geology of the North Sea"* that is credited with giving many an aspiring North Sea geologist a great grounding in that region. He retired from Shell in 1985. Ken pursued his academic career and was still active at the University of Aberdeen on his passing. *Ken was kind enough to write a description of his time in the North that was published in [Archives, 2006, v. 17, no. 3](#), pp. 6-10.*

HUNTER, Beatrice. Born March 19, 1921 and passed away March 19, 2018. Bea was born in Wapella, Saskatchewan. She was educated at the Regina General Hospital School of Nursing. She enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corp and served overseas during the Second World War. When she returned home she enrolled at the University of Alberta and received a nursing degree. Her long nursing career consisted of ward work, teaching and administration in Alberta and B.C. She retired as Director of the nursing program at the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton. Bea married Vern Hunter in 1972, being his second wife. Vern was, of course, better known as "Dry Hole Hunter" who apparently had drilled a long series of dry holes for Imperial Oil prior to finally striking the motherlode at Leduc in February 1947. Vern passed away in 1985. Bea was fascinated with the stories of early drilling and how it affected people's lives - and on that basis she did extensive research and finally wrote the book "Last Chance Well", published in 1997. She was an original member of the Leduc #1 Historical Society and editor of its "Catwalk" newsletter for more than a decade. Bea's stepson, Don Hunter, is a major player and frequent tour guide at the Canadian Energy Museum (formerly the Canadian Petroleum Discovery Centre and then the Leduc #1 Energy Discovery Centre) at Devon. *Note: Bea's passing slipped by us unnoticed, hence the delay in its inclusion here. Many Petroleum History Society members had a close association with Leduc and were amongst those involved in Bea's work. These included geologist Aubrey Kerr and engineer Hugh Leiper.*

JAIN, Sudhir. Born July 31, 1938 in Dehradun in pre-Independence India and passed away September 10, 2019. Sudhir had the temerity and resilience to cross many national and cultural boundaries in his life. After completing a B.Sc. and M.Tech. in geophysics at IIT Kharagpur on a full scholarship, he sailed alone to Liverpool in 1961 for his Ph.D. There he stayed at World Friendship House, an Anglican hostel for overseas students that saw as an unofficial part of its charitable mission the introduction of young men from the former colonies to English women. Combining romance with parsimony, Sudhir would invite an effervescent local girl named Evelyn to take the one concert ticket he had, but insist that he walk her through the dangerous urban neighbourhoods. Magically, two tickets would appear. The young couple's courtship blossomed and Evelyn invited Sudhir home for Christmas dinner. Her parents felt the sparks and ceremoniously took him aside to express their concern. "We know men like you have other wives, so stay away from our Evelyn," they said. "Yes," he responded with his sly smile. "But don't worry, we are allowed four." This initiated an intensely loyal and loving 54 year-long marriage. On Sudhir's completion of his award-winning Ph.D. and Evelyn of her social work degree, they moved to London and then to Libya where they lived until 1972. Sporting two children and a set of friends that would become lifelong and inter-generational, they set out for North America with eyes toward Dallas. A visit to Evelyn's long-lost Scottish uncles in Philadelphia turned into a three year layover when an executive at a local oil exploration company recognized Sudhir's name from an article he had published, and hired him on the spot.

Sudhir could spin language in other ways as well. When a professional opportunity arose in Calgary, he sold Evelyn on the possibility of yet another move by focusing on how "very clean" it

was. His brood found the February relocation to Alberta in the midst of a blizzard particularly bracing. They had never been "cleaned" by more than the snow "dustings" that closed roads and schools in Pennsylvania. In Calgary, Sudhir soon founded his own company, Commonwealth Geophysical, which developed industry-shifting innovations. In particular, he devised a novel method of inversion and developed computer programs that pioneered ways to predict the nature and composition of geophysical features. While his contributions have been widely honoured within the geophysical community, Sudhir turned more philosophical about the oil industry and its global impact in his later years.

Calgary became the Jain's lifelong home and the birthplace of their third child. Both Sudhir and Evelyn worked tirelessly to build and sustain the community. Sudhir was particularly drawn to support the arts, especially classical music, and in retirement he volunteered in various capacities, including driving for the cancer hospital and taking an active role in raising his granddaughter Asha. While he loved the spirit and expanse of Canada, he was never one for scree, or skating, or skiing - much preferring a solitary afternoon with Mahler, or a night out at the opera. He was charming, insightful, funny, and if circumstances militated against his contemplative solitude, he loved nothing more than spirited banter.

Sudhir discovered fiction and opinion-writing as a creative outlet later in life, ultimately publishing six books and hundreds of letters to the editor. He expressed his deep sense of justice and playful spirit through puns as much as punditry. Family and friends were also privy to his coy sense of humour. Regardless of who asked the morning ritual question of how he slept, his well-rested response was always the same: "the sleep of the unjust." At a spry 81 and, along with his wife Evelyn, an avid traveler, Sudhir made a trip to the Canadian North and Stratford this summer. In a recent letter published in the Calgary Herald he extolled his adopted country's natural drama and artistic pleasures, and took the opportunity to recommit his allegiance to the place he made his home 45 years ago.

JONES, Gordon Harris. Born June 2, 1927 in Northampton, England and passed away April 6, 2020. He was educated in Birmingham and received his doctorate in Geology from the University of Birmingham in 1956. Gordon spent his early years in England, then went to Uruguay in 1950. Gordon met Sylvia in Uruguay. They married in 1955 and eventually moved to New Jersey in 1958 and Calgary in 1959. He was the Chief Geologist/Manager for Hunting Exploration and Services in South America (1950-1958) and Canada (1958-59). He then became head of the Geology Department and Director for Sproule and Associates in Calgary (1960-1968) and he was one of the founders and Corporate Secretary for Panarctic Oils Limited (1966-67). He was one of the original executives for PetroCanada in 1975, and then went on to be the President and Director of Global Marine Arctic Ltd. (1968-76) and Technical Coordinator and other executive positions for PetroCanada (1976-1978). He decided to start his own company, Jones Frontier Advisors Ltd (1979) and he became President of Alconsult International Ltd. (1986). He was also Executive Director of the Arctic Petroleum Operators Association and the Eastcoast Petroleum Operators Association. He joined the Calgary Zoo shortly after arriving in Calgary, working as the Director of Education, and later, a Trustee and a Senator; he was instrumental in the planning and fundraising for the Dinosaur Park.

KIRKER, Margaret Isobel. Born in 1925 in Rossland, B.C. and passed away March 10, 2020. Marg was an academic and enjoyed playing sports. Her adventurous nature brought her to the University of British Columbia where she earned a Commerce degree. Marg and her husband Jim lived in Calgary where Marg worked for a time at the University of Calgary, and where they

raised their three children. Jim predeceased Marg in 2017. Marg and Jim shared an adventurous life that included Marg cooking for a rig crew on their honeymoon, living in Perth, Australia for several years, and extensive worldwide travel where Marg had the opportunity to explore many foreign cities on her own. She and Jim were very active socially and greatly appreciated a wide circle of friends in Calgary, the desert cities where they spent their winters golfing, and around the world. They also very much enjoyed time with the family in Canmore. Marg was always aware of the needs of others, and was a generous philanthropist. A long-time supporter of the Sheriff King Home, she also sat on the Board of Directors of Meals on Wheels and the YMCA. An avid reader, Marg always had a book to recommend and share. She was an engaged conversationalist with an interest in current events. She was classy and modest, with a great sense of style. Marg was an exceptional event organizer and cook, bringing great recipes from the places she had travelled. She hosted many wonderful celebrations. Marg cared deeply for friends and family, she made all of us feel so loved. Her family will cherish memories of Sunday dinners and ski days at Lake Louise. As Marg's granddaughter wrote in a letter to her grandma, "I love hearing the stories of what made you who you are." We will miss her stories and sharing the wonderful view that Marg loved from her and Jim's home as she sat at her sunny kitchen table pondering over the daily crossword. *Jim Kirker, Marg's husband, spoke to the P.H.S. on February 17, 2016 on the subject of his memoirs that he had published that contain an epic record of his adventures, shared with Marg, in the Canadian and international petroleum and minerals world. We often overlook the role of the supporting partner in making personal accomplishment – and industry success – possible.*

KLASSEN, Rudolph (Rudy) Waldemar. Born September 30, 1928 in Hanna, Alberta and passed away February 19, 2020. Rudy was the fourth child in a family of eleven. He grew up on the family farm near Linden, Alberta and attended local schools for his early education. After completing Grade 10, he spent two years farming with his father before returning to complete his High School education. In the fall of 1950, he enrolled in a one-year teacher education program at the Calgary Branch of the University of Alberta, and spent the summer months of 1951 as an officer cadet with the University Naval Training Division in the Royal Canadian Navy base in Esquimalt, B.C. His first teaching position was in the one room Three Hills Rural School, followed by several years teaching Junior High School in Linden and Acme. During these years, he took summer courses and was several courses short of a B.Ed., when he left teaching in 1956 to enroll in first year geology at the University of Alberta. He graduated with a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in geology in 1960 followed by a Ph.D. from the University of Saskatchewan in 1966. Rudy married Carmel Despins in 1967. In 1966 he had accepted a position as a Research Scientist with the Geological Survey of Canada in Calgary. During the following years, until his retirement in 1994, Rudy worked for the G.S.C. spending summers conducting surficial geology mapping projects in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and the Yukon. Geologic maps covering 400,000 sq. km of terrain along with scientific papers were published by the G.S.C. and in scientific journals. After his retirement, he continued as Emeritus Research Scientist with the Survey until 2007, when he continued as a volunteer. During the years 1973 to 1985, he taught evening classes as a Sessional Instructor in the Archaeology Department of the University of Calgary. Over the years, Rudy was a dedicated writer of letters to the editor of the Calgary Herald and a member of the World Federalists of Canada. He kept his boyhood interest in farming alive by raising some five hundred to three thousand pheasants with the help of four sons on our Calgary acreage and the family farm near Linden. The pheasants were marketed in Calgary restaurants or released for hunting on the family farm. Guests were assured of a pheasant feast when invited to the Klassens' for dinner. Many happy, short summer holidays were spent at Shuswap Lake and most extensive traveling was done during their retirement

years visiting their sons in various parts of Western world. *I knew Rudy personally as he had reviewed an article that I'd written about the glacial sediments on Baffin Island. Carmel also sang in a French choir with my wife and once we had the chance to visit Rudy and Carmel's pheasant operation on the western outskirts of Calgary. Rudy was a classic gentleman.*

KOVACH, Anthony (Tony) Joseph. Born February 23, 1931 in Lethbridge, Alberta and passed away May 31, 2020. Tony's family left Hungary in 1925 due to political uncertainty. He would be the first to say his childhood was not a happy one. Only when Tony started at St. Mary's Boys' School did his life turn around. Tony became interested in school and did well. He worked in every department there was at the Hudson's Bay Company and saved every nickel he had to attend law school at the University of Alberta. He had wanted to become a doctor, but law school was the cheaper option. After Tony articled he was hired on at the Shell Legal Department in 1956, and was happily there for 32 years. Tony retired in 1988 to spend more time with his cocker spaniel Buddy. The animals of the world never had a bigger advocate than this man. Tony became a pescatarian over 30 years ago because of his love of animals. He joined the then-small Board of Directors of the Calgary Humane Society. After retiring, Tony took his Master's degree under the tutelage of Dr. James Black in Dr. Black's Shakespeare course, finally settling in Dr. Wall's contemporary writing class, and then wrote his thesis on James Joyce. Tony's thesis was so well thought of that in 1997 he was asked to speak at the Trieste Joyce School in Italy. He said the speaking engagement would have gone well had the microphone worked. His loves included books, fine art, books, classical music, tennis, books, Roger Federer, books, travelling, great Italian food, books, red wine, and Gordon's gin. Also books. No words on paper, no chronology of birth, or accomplishments, or career timeline can convey the person that Tony Kovach was. If you were just meeting Tony, you might wonder what you were in for. Deeply intelligent, a dry sense of humour, he might come across as stand-offish. What you would get would be wonderful stories of a life well lived, a generosity surpassed by no one, and an everlasting friendship with one of the most interesting and complex people you could ever hope to meet.

LEESON, John Ian Powell. Born July 15, 1928 in Leicestershire and passed away June 27, 2020. John spent the war years in Campbeltown, Argyll. After the war, he attended university in Glasgow, Scotland where he met the love of his life, Marjorie Maclean. A geology scholarship to McGill University brought him to Canada. In 1953, Marjorie joined him in Calgary. John had a successful career with Chevron and Home Oil with later stops in Pakistan and Costa Rica. John was a man of faith and family, a finder of precious things, a deep thinker and a kind man. *John will be remembered by some as being part of a controversy in the late 1970's wherein an accusation was made that confidential subsurface information had been taken from Chevron and used by a competitor. This was at the time of the West Pembina Nisku discoveries. Taking advantage of geophysical incentives offered by the Alberta Government, Chevron had shot long regional lines and had identified some promising anomalies that turned out to be small but financially lucrative hydrocarbon-bearing reefs in the Devonian Nisku Formation. The case went to court but was thrown out.*

MECH, Bonnie Jean (nee Aubrey). Born November 12, 1946 and passed away June 14, 2020. Bonnie received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology at the University of Calgary in May of 1967. She was articulate, well read and had a thirst for knowledge. Bonnie's career included 13 years at the Calgary City Library and 30 years at PanCanadian Energy (later EnCana) as a Supervisor and Records Administration. *Bonnie was a Board Member of the P.H.S. for a time a couple of decades ago.*

MILNE, George McGill. Born June 2, 1928 in Toronto, Ontario and passed away January 25, 2020. George was raised in Toronto, His father was a Scottish chemist who immigrated to Canada. George attended Oakwood Collegiate, and later the University of Toronto, on scholarship for one year. He married Helen Smith in 1952 and worked in London, Ontario, as a Sales Manager for Shell, later moving to Toronto where he worked at BP Oil as Marketing Manager for Ontario. For over thirty years George continued to work in management with various oil companies, finally retiring from PetroCanada in Calgary in 1989. That same year, George was offered a post as Regimental Secretary for the Calgary Highlanders, where he continued in this position for five years. In this time, a highlight was writing the speech for Queen Elizabeth II's visit to McMahon Stadium. He was told by the Queen that this was the first speech in fifteen years that she did not alter. In 2001, George was conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws at the University of Calgary for his commitment to the quest for recognition and understanding of the sacrifices of yesterday's youth in uniform. George served the Canadian military in various capacities for more than forty-three years and received many medals and honours, including the Queen Elizabeth Golden Jubilee Medal. With vision, energy and enthusiasm, George set an example for many, especially his family. Where some might see obstacles George saw opportunities. He relished the creative possibilities of problem solving. Ever a generous spirit, George had a favourite quote from Winston Churchill, "*You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give*".

ROBERTSON, Norman William (Norm). Born February 19, 1937 in Regina, Saskatchewan and passed away February 23, 2020. Norm moved to Calgary late in his teenage years to pursue his passion for hockey where he played for several teams most notably the Drumheller Minors [*Miners?*] and Okotoks Oilers. In 1962, he began his career with ATCO as a sales representative contributing greatly to the success and growth of the Corporation. Shortly after, he was transferred to Los Angeles where he opened a successful sales office. After two years on the coast, Norm returned to Calgary where he assumed the post of Assistant General Manager and shortly thereafter the General Sales Manager position. In 1968, with the decentralization of ATCO, Norm became Vice President of ATCO Structures, Ltd. - the largest of the subsidiaries - and President in 1970. He was appointed Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of ATCO Industries Ltd. in 1977, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, in 1981 and in 1984 was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer of ATCO Ltd. With the 1988 reorganization of ATCO Ltd.'s operations into three operating groups, Norm was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of ATCO Enterprises Ltd. until his retirement in 1994. Norm served as a Director of ATCO Ltd., Canadian Utilities Ltd., ATCOR Resources Ltd., Frontec Logistics Corp., and several other companies outside the ATCO Group. From 2005-2014, he was Chairman of the Board for Tesco Corporation. Always active in the community, Norm also served as the volunteer Chairman of the United Way, a member of the National Board for Hockey Canada and was President of the Calgary Petroleum Club. Norm was deeply devoted to his family and will be remembered for his warm disposition, integrity, charismatic leadership, wonderful sense of humor and genuine smile. He was larger than life, a true mentor, and a hero to all.

ROWAN, Jean Louise (nee BUCHER). Born June 21, 1926 in Okotoks, Alberta and passed away March 14, 2020. She was predeceased by her husband of sixty-nine years, Gordie Rowan, in 2019. She loved to read, travel, golf, spend time with her family and express her creativity through sewing, quilting, needlework and cake decorating. *On January 30, 2013*

Gordie made a presentation to the P.H.S. about his life and his involvement with the Oilfield Technical Society.

SIEBENS, W. W. "Bill". Born November 17, 1933 and passed away June 29, 2020. Bill's love of travel began at an early age and was greatly influenced by his mother, Velma Wolf. When Bill was a teenager, he spent a year in Germany as a foreign exchange student. He also spent a memorable summer travelling the Alaska Highway with his family, hunting and fishing along the way. They were the first civilians to travel the ALCAN Highway (as it was then known) after World War II. Bill attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated with a degree in Petroleum Engineering. Afterward he became a jet fighter pilot stationed in Libya, flying F-86s. He was considered a "lucky" pilot having had a few close calls, including a crash landing at night in a T-33 jet trainer after a flameout and complete failure of the electrical system.

It is difficult to outline the entirety of Bill's business achievements. It's a story of hard work, determination, vision and entrepreneurial spirit. The two companies he was instrumental in founding and leading were Siebens Oil and Gas (S.O.G.) and Siebens Oil and Gas (UK). S.O.G. went public in 1970 and became the largest exploration landholder in Canada. S.O.G. also held acreage and explored in the Seychelles Islands, Socotra Island off the Yemen coast, Vietnam, and the North Sea. The company was sold to Dome Petroleum in 1979. Siebens Oil and Gas (UK) was a separate public company and was directly involved in the discovery of the Brae Field.

This love of travel and adventure, with family and friends, continued throughout Bill's life and took him to destinations around the world. He became especially fond of London, England during his international oil and gas exploration days, eventually acquiring a second residence in London that he used to host family and friends for many years. In his later years Punta Mita, Mexico became Bill and Sharon's winter home base where they would host many local and international friends and family. Bill was an avid sportsman having played football, water polo and competitive swimming in his youth. Recreationally he enjoyed golf and tennis. He was a lifelong fisherman and hunter. He was instrumental in arranging family pheasant hunts at Griffith Island Club in Georgian Bay that started in the 1970s and which are still an annual event. He also attended various hunts in the UK and Spain with friends and family for many years.

One of Bill's favorite pastimes was spending time at his Tongue Creek Ranch that he acquired in 1979. In 2010, Bill purchased the OH Ranch and gifted half to the Calgary Stampede Foundation during the Calgary Stampede's 100th anniversary. Bill believed that the Calgary Stampede Foundation would protect the OH Ranch brand and ensure that the story of ranching and its importance to Alberta would be passed on to future generations. Not only did Bill admire and appreciate the importance of the Calgary Stampede, there were few people who enjoyed it more than he did. His infamous hat and his legendary stamina during the 10 days would be remembered by many friends. He also stayed connected to friends through his annual Christmas Pheasant Luncheon, which he hosted for 37 years, the Thursday Guys Lunches and his Code Red meetings. One of Bill's favourite experiences was his presidency of the Calgary Petroleum Club during the 1988 Winter Olympics. Bill ensured that the Club warmly welcomed the international community and he worked tirelessly with the local organizing committee to help create a legacy of the 1988 Winter Olympics. The donation Bill and his father Harold made enabled the Olympic Hall of Fame in Calgary to be built.

Over the years, Bill was recognized for his achievements, successes, and generosity in many ways. Notable among them was his appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada and his induction into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2006. He served as a Corporate Director on many boards including Petro-Canada and the Fraser Institute. Philanthropy was always an important part of Bill's life. Over the years he helped many people in many ways. One example is Bill and Sharon's long-time support of the United Way of Calgary, which has positively impacted thousands of Calgarians' lives. Their generosity earned them the first Canadian seat at the United Way Roundtable, representing a group of international philanthropists who are leading donors to the United Way. For anyone that knew Bill, he was a man of few words. With his pragmatic outlook on life, Bill was frank, direct, and wise. Many people reached out for his counsel and guidance. Bill was a widely respected businessman; a generous and compassionate community philanthropist; and, a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. While his business achievements were many, his greatest pride and joy were his children and grandchildren.

SLIND, Orrin Lee. Born August 3, 1928 in Minneapolis, Minnesota and passed away May 17, 2020 fittingly on Syttende Mai (Norwegian Independence Day). Lee was raised in Minneapolis. His school years gave an early indication of his industriousness, as he combined studies with a large morning paper route and at night shift unloading railroad cars. After graduating high school, he joined the Marines out of a desire to see the world. He served his stint at Subic Bay before returning home and entering the University of Minnesota. His collegiate years were interrupted by the Korean War. He was recalled to duty, fought in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir and received a Purple Heart. After recovering in Japan, he finished the war out at the U.S. Embassy in Thailand.

He then resumed university, graduating with degrees in Geology and Engineering. During his studies, Lee met Joann McDowell, the love of his life. On graduation, he took up a summer job for Shell Oil in Alberta. He fell in love again, this time with the Rockies. Fortunately, Shell offered him a permanent job. Lee and Joann married and moved to Calgary in 1954. In the ensuing years, they started a family and Lee's work took him far and wide, mapping and exploring for oil and gas throughout Alberta, off the West Coast, and in the Arctic. He would eventually attain the rank of Chief Geologist for Shell Canada. In 1971, wanderlust struck, and the family spent three years living in The Hague. Lee's professional focus was in the Middle East at a very delicate time for the region. The family travelled all over Europe and hosted many visitors keen to see the sights. Then it was back to Calgary where Lee and Joann designed and built a house on acreage near Cochrane and proceeded to live there for the next forty-five years. Leaving Shell for consultancy in 1986, Lee continued working well into his eighties. Projects for Alconsult during this time included a long excursion to Nepal and a major project accumulating and analyzing the geology of East Africa.

The travel bug took Lee and Joann many places. He knew the West, Canadian and American, in minute detail (Jackson, Wyoming was a particular favourite). They visited their children and grandchildren in Singapore, Bolivia, Mexico, Germany, and England. They even stayed in the same Beijing hotel as a handful of Western reporters during the Tiananmen Square protests. When his children were young, they spent summers visiting family in St. Paul and hiking and camping in the Rocky Mountains. His favourite place on Earth was Jasper, Alberta as he had mapped parts of Jasper National Park on horseback early in his career when that sort of commercially-connected activity was allowed. The family gathered to celebrate his birthday every year at Tekarra Lodge at the confluence of the Miette and Athabasca rivers. His

grandchildren fondly remember bringing him rocks to identify and listening to him explain what the Rocky Mountains were made of and how they were formed.

Lee made and cherished many friends. The family remembers him enjoying the company of Charlie Bruce, Otto Friedenreich, Gil and Susan Graff, Al Chase, and friends from school days. He joined in lively lunches with the "Friends of Otto" group at the Danish Canadian Club every Friday for many years. Lee took care of people; colleagues have mentioned this, and his children can attest that he provided generous support through many ups and downs over the years. This was paired with a strong moral voice; he knew what the right thing to do was, and he was not shy about expressing it. The advice may not have been welcome at the time of issuance, but his wisdom, annoyingly, would inevitably be borne out.

Your President and editor worked for Lee at Shell and was indeed hired by him from Queen's University in 1980. So a final tip of the hat to a great guy.

SUEY, Harry. Born August 27, 1927 in Consort, Alberta and passed away February 17, 2020. Harry was the youngest of six children. Growing up in rural Alberta during the Depression, he spent much of his time working in the family café and playing whatever sports were available, including baseball, which earned him the nickname "Slug". From his early days he recognized the importance of education and adventure, which led him to the University of Oklahoma, where he graduated with a degree in Geological Engineering in 1952. For over thirty years, he worked for Dome Petroleum Ltd. until his retirement in 1984. Harry's constant curiosity about the world and his thirst for knowledge was reflected in his passion for jazz, non-fiction reading, education and world travel. Trips abroad with Patricia were numerous and far-reaching. From exploring the ruins of Machu Picchu, safaris in Africa, museums in Russia, or watching Grand Slam tennis at Wimbledon and the Australian Open, his interest in history and the world around him was boundless. When not travelling, Harry could be found on the golf course or playing badminton and tennis at the Calgary Winter Club, where he was a charter member.

THOMSON, Jarod Grant. Born July 18, 1975 in Regina, Saskatchewan and passed away February 19, 2020. Jarod was raised in Priddis, Alberta where he attended Red Deer Lake School and Foothills Composite High School. He later graduated with distinction from the University of Calgary's Commerce program in 1998 and went on to obtain an M.B.A. in Business at the Richard Ivey School of Business in 2004. Jarod was a highly respected strategy leader in Calgary's energy sector. He was a senior manager for Accenture's Strategy Group as well as their Strategy Lead for Canadian Energy. He later moved on to Suncor, progressing to the role of Director of IT Strategy and Investment Portfolio Management. Most recently, Jarod was a valued member for Ernst and Young's Strategy Consulting department, where he was a senior manager. Jarod was an avid skier and outdoors enthusiast. He loved walking through Fish Creek Park and visiting his family's cabin on the beautiful shores of Kootenay Lake in B.C. He will be lovingly remembered for his huge heart, his brilliant sense of humour and his dedication to excellence in his career.

VASSIE, Gary Spence. Born September 7, 1947 and passed away February 28, 2020. Gary was born in Nipawin, Saskatchewan, and moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in 1956. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a B.Sc. with Great Distinction in Chemical Engineering and an M.Sc. He was awarded The Athlone Fellowship from Great Britain for his distinguished service in the academic field of Engineering in Canada. Gary joined Shell Canada Limited in 1971. He worked as an Engineer in various Resources assignments, including

Process Design and Project Manager of the Deep Cut Project at Waterton Gas Plant and Plant Manager at Jumping Pound Gas Plant. In 1987, Gary was seconded to Shell International Gas Company, London, as Head of Business Development - Africa, and returned to Canada in 1990, as Vice-President of Research. In 1994 he was appointed Natural Gas Director for Shell UK, leading the UK's gas business in the North Sea and returned to Canada in 1998, as Vice-President of Oil Sands Project Integration. He retired from Shell in 2001. Gary lived his life with a strong personal code of ethics and integrity. He was loyal, straightforward and did everything with energy and drive. He had a high level of determination, commitment, and untiring stamina in every aspect of his life. Gary had an amazing wit, sense of humour and infectious laugh that will always be a part of our memories. Gary was an accomplished woodworker, with a great creative flair. He loved to have fun whether it was dirt biking, fast cars, skiing at full throttle, golfing, or loading up friends and family on his boat.

VOLL, Allan Robert. Born July 26, 1931 in Shaunavan, Saskatchewan and passed away February 23, 2020. Allan was born and raised on a farm outside of Shaunavan, Saskatchewan. He left the family farm as a young man and worked at various jobs before settling in Calgary. He worked as a farm hand, at the Turner Valley Oil and Gas Plant, and as a butcher, before ending up as letter carrier. He worked with Canada Post for 22 years, before retiring. Calgary is where he met and married Marion in 1962. Together they bought their house in Calgary in 1966, where they continue to call home. Allan was a loving husband, a great parent and a perfect gentleman.

WOODHEAD, Michael Priestley. Born January 8, 1925 in Harrogate, Yorkshire, UK and passed away May 23, 2020. Michael was educated at Stowe and, for a time during the war years, at the Hill School in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. He completed his degree in Geology at Trinity College, Cambridge, and immigrated to Calgary, Alberta in 1948. There he started his career as a junior geologist with Imperial Oil, working at the Redwater site.

In the summer of 1957, Michael returned to Harrogate for a family holiday and met his soon-to-be wife, Val, at a tennis party. After a whirlwind romance, the two married in England on December 28, 1957 and returned to Calgary. Michael was fortunate that his career coincided with the exciting oil boom years. He spent a number of years supervising the rigs as a young geologist before moving on to ultimately become the Head of International Geology at PanCanadian. That position allowed him to travel the world seeking out investment opportunities for the company.

In addition to a rewarding career, Michael had many outside interests. He loved nothing more than hiking in the mountains around Alberta and B.C. and he was a keen cyclist. He loved to dance. He and Val were gold medalist ballroom dancers and avid participants in Scottish Country Dancing with several different clubs. He was also a talented carpenter and enjoyed DIY home renovations and building furniture. But his favourite hobby was building model trains from scratch. We grew up to the sound of the lathe and the smell of the soldering machine as he built the engines. When he retired, and he and Val moved to Mill Bay on Vancouver Island, he filled the basement of a large country home (which he designed) with tracks, trains and scenery, which he loved to show off to anyone who displayed the slightest interest! Michael was a supportive father and an engaged grandfather, always with a twinkle of mischief in his eye. He was a loyal friend and an incredible life companion to Valerie.

WRUBLESKI, Robert (Bob) Michael. Born September 12, 1944 in Saskatchewan and passed away June 25, 2020. Bob left Saskatchewan after graduating from the University of Saskatchewan. He worked as a Chemical Engineer for Shell Canada for 34 years in refining, oil, gas, oil sands, and environmental engineering. After retirement, Bob consulted in the oil industry for several years. Bob was active in parish life, including leading the Building Committee for a major church renovation (2001- 2005) and serving in the St. Luke's Parish Refugee Support Ministry for 30 years. Bob loved running, cycling, and camping with his beloved wife, especially across Alberta and Arizona. His favourite pastime was cutting trees with his many chainsaws.



Is this what it's coming to for our industry?
(from a birthday card)