

REMEMBRANCES

(with thanks to the Calgary Herald and the Globe and Mail)

We continue our tradition of honouring those who have been integral parts of the Canadian petroleum industry and have contributed to its success.

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

Bonke, Carl Anton. Born September 6, 1935 in Calgary, Alberta and passed away November 21, 2020. Carl graduated from S.A.I.T. in 1956. He had a successful 37 year career with Shell Canada where he worked on projects in the Yukon, B.C., the East Coast and Alberta. He had amazing positivity and optimism, was fun loving and a joy to be around. He had a great sense of humour and was known for telling lots of interesting stories.

Editor's note: Carl's main role with Shell was as the company's representative in areas where Shell was operating – handling liaison amongst Shell contractors, communities and governments. He was the “go-to” person for sorting out problems and providing support where that was possible. He knew everyone. Given his positive and outgoing character, he was the ideal person to be Shell's “face” in the region and his word came to be trusted by those with whom he dealt.

Comer, Robert (Bob) Lionel. Born June 11, 1930 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and passed away September 25, 2020. Bob was raised in Saskatoon and graduated in physics from the University of Saskatchewan. A professional geophysicist, he joined Shell and worked on seismic crews in various towns in Alberta and Saskatchewan and in the Calgary, Regina, and Edmonton offices. Subsequently, he was a consultant for 30 years as a partner in Comer and Wilson in Calgary. Bob and his wife, Marg, travelled a great deal for Bob's work, including to China, Houston, Pakistan, and Vancouver. He was very active in scientific associations, even after he retired. Bob served as President of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists and was awarded their Meritorious Service Award and Honorary Membership, of which he was very proud. He served on many committees of the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta and served a three-year term on their Council. For five years Bob represented this organization on the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists and served as their Secretary-Treasurer.

Herron, William Stewart. Born January 8, 1934 in Calgary, Alberta and passed away December 3, 2020. After receiving his B.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering in 1957, Bill worked for Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas in Calgary, where he and Carol met and married in 1959. In 1968, Bill and Carol purchased the Mt. Norquay ski area in Banff, Alberta which they operated for the next ten years. After returning to Calgary, Bill resumed work as a consulting engineer while obtaining his Realtor's License. He retired, a successful realtor, in 2012.

Editor's note: P.H.S Director Doug Cass advises that William Herron was the grandson of Turner Valley discoverer Bill Herron and son of petroleum businessman Bill Herron, Jr. He obviously had some involvement with the Calgary oilpatch but not to the same extent as his ancestors. As for his skiing connection, it was all downhill from there.

Irwin, John (Jack). Born May 12, 1929 in Edmonton, Alberta and passed away December 6, 2020. Jack was raised in Edmonton and moved to Calgary in 1952. He went on to enjoy a successful career of 37 years as a Landman working for British-American, Pacific 66, and DeKalb Petroleum from which he retired as Vice-President of Land and Contracts. Jack was a proud member of The Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen (C.A.P.L.) and served as its President in 1970.

Jack had a gift that made all who surrounded him feel welcome, wanted, and valued. People felt lifted up and important to him, and they were. He was a great friend, neighbour, business associate, a diehard Calgary Stampeder and Flames fan. He was kind, gentle, fun, rarely serious, a jokester who loved to tell the same jokes over and over - many corny but clean. Some were not as funny as he thought, but he would laugh and laugh, and you would too as his laugh was that contagious. Jack was a great story teller, and some of them actually happened. His legacy as a great host at his house or farm, was always complemented by Marion, who served great meals while Jack told jokes, stories, and socialized. Jack especially loved children, as he was like a kid himself. In the mid-sixties he would hold annual passing parties for all the kids on his block, complete with pop, hot dogs, and ice cream. At his farm he often took nieces, nephews, grandkids and other children who all enjoyed a hay, tractor or snowmobile ride. Jack loved being at his farm tinkering in his Quonset, it was his place of solitude. When at the farm he often was scraped, nicked, bruised, or cut. Like a cat with nine lives, he never let anything slow him down. Soon after healing, he would be onto another risky adventure. Jack was a man who walked with conviction, passion, integrity and his word was always good. Honesty was an important virtue to him. He was generous, kind, gentle, soft hearted, and led by example. His humorous side came naturally; many would say he was a character, which he was.

Mogensen, Hugh. Born August 1930 in Calgary, Alberta and passed away September 23, 2020. Hugh was born in Calgary's General Hospital in August, 1930, the eldest of five children of new Danish immigrants. He spent his first nine years in East Calgary, an area we now call Inglewood. In 1939 his parents left the challenging economic times in the city for a farming homestead northwest of Red Deer that they literally carved out of dense bush. For the next nine years he lived with his family while often boarding with others in the Rimbey and Red Deer areas so that he could attend high school. The freedom and challenges he experienced as a youth instilled in Hugh an unwavering determination and work ethic. After a brief stint as a school teacher in rural Alberta, Hugh returned to the University of Alberta and in 1956 graduated with a B.Sc. in Geology.

Hugh was fortunate to enter the mid-1950's Alberta work force with a geology degree. Combined with his drive, integrity and aptitude it facilitated a very successful 50+ year career in the energy and mining industries. Highlights are too numerous to mention but include opening an office in London, England for CIGOL (Norcen Energy) in 1971 to pursue international oil and gas prospects, and serving as the founding President of Calgary-based Inverness Petroleum. He served on the boards of over a dozen independent resource firms over the years, was a mentor and sounding board for many aspiring entrepreneurs, and was an active investor until his final days. He also applied his entrepreneurial acumen to a wide range of small business ventures, often supporting the dreams of family and friends. He was a lover of literature and the arts, especially humorous verse and musical theatre. In light-hearted moments he could be heard happily reciting (or singing) the lyrics to any number of Gilbert and Sullivan or Noel Coward pieces, usually in an impeccable British accent. Hugh was a voracious reader, a student

of world history, and a lover of classic movies and the intricacies of human language. He never forgot his humble roots, and few things (aside from his daily crossword puzzle) gave him more pleasure than assisting family, friends and numerous charitable organizations.

Pallister, Alfred Ernest (Ernie). Born October 28, 1927 in Edmonton, Alberta and passed away October 4, 2020. Ernie earned his B.Sc. from the University of Alberta. In the 1950's, as one of the first geophysicists, he organized seismic "Quest" programs in the N.W.T. and the Arctic. A talented leader, Ernie's contributions to Canadian science, research and management were recognized with many honors, including being named an Officer of the Order of Canada, and receiving the Alberta Order of Excellence, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal, and two honorary degrees. He is remembered as a compassionate friend, patient mentor, and inspirational patriarch who saw the future as full of promise and opportunity, a "Rainbow Quest" for his grandkids.

Pasini, Albert Roger. Born in 1933 in Drumheller, Alberta and passed away June 25, 2020. Al was raised by immigrant parents to value education and understand the importance of hard work. He left Drumheller to pursue an engineering degree at the University of Alberta and graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1955. In 1959 he began a 36-year career with UMA Engineering (now AECOM). Al was a leader in engineering, project management and business management for the UMA Group. His achievements in management and technical guidance for many significant Canadian infrastructure projects are a testament to his career. He was project principal for the Dickson Dam, Oldman River Dam and Norman Wels Pipeline Projects as well as having significant involvement in other notable projects such as the Calgary Olympic Bobsleigh and Luge, Syncrude water supply and many more. Al was named President and Chief Operating Officer for the UMA Group in 1983 and became Chairman, President and C.E.O. in 1991. He guided the growth of the diverse engineering and project management operations until his retirement in 1995. After that he deployed his knowledge and expertise in the service of his community. He joined the Board of the Edmonton Airport Authority and brought his talents as a project manager and unique perspective as a former pilot to the oversight of the reconstruction of the international airport.

Smith, Arthur Young, Jr. Born September 4, 1929 in Detroit, Michigan and passed away August 23, 2020. Art graduated from McGill University in 1957 with a B.Sc. (Honours) in Geology and went on to earn his M.Sc. (Honours) in Geology from Queen's University in 1961. He completed course work for his Ph.D. at Carleton University but started working before he completed the requirements for that degree. Coming from an old Ottawa family that was artistic, Art started out as an assistant in the Ottawa studio of the photographer Malak Karsh and became an adept photographer in his own right. When the opportunity arose to put his photographic skills to work with the Geological Survey of Canada, he jumped at the adventure of doing airborne photo and magnetic surveys in northern Alberta, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, often flying in the bellies of old wartime Lancasters and the Canso Flying Boat, operating the cameras and magnetometers. His photos of Fort McMurray in the early sixties, capturing Fort Mac before the oil boom, are in the archives of the city. He quickly fell in love with the opportunities that geology, geological surveying and geochemistry gave him for understanding the world at scales ranging from continental to the elemental. Early in his career he and his family spent summers in Bathurst, New Brunswick; Elliott Lake, Ontario; and Bancroft, Ontario working on gold and uranium deposits and doing groundwater surveys. His early survey work

helped him to develop some of the early radon detection equipment that came into commercial use.

His works as a geologist and geochemist for the G.S.C. and International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) took him to many locations worldwide doing original fieldwork and training researchers in methods that he and his teams developed for uranium exploration and mapping. He eventually moved to I.A.E.A. headquarters in Vienna, Austria where he worked in the Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology until his retirement in 1989. In April 1986, during the Chernobyl accident, he was a member of the team that advised the I.A.E.A. on natural background radiation. After retirement, as a former member of the I.A.E.A., he shared in the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize which was awarded “for their efforts to prevent nuclear energy from being used for military purposes and to ensure that nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is used in the safest possible way”.

After his retirement Art moved to his farm in Fulford, Quebec where he operated a woodlot and lived until a month before his death. He was a devotee of classical music, opera, jazz and most other forms of music. He was a gifted storyteller, a voracious reader and a proud Canadian, fascinated with Canada’s history and contemporary politics. Always a bon vivant, his taste in wine was exceptionally broad but Scotch was his drink of choice.

Stoneman, Douglas (Doug) G. Born May 21, 1931 in Ottawa, Ontario and passed away June 17, 2020. Doug was raised in Winnipeg, where he graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Manitoba. He joined Shell Canada upon graduation and over the next 37 years he progressed from the field, through the engineering pool, to management and into the executive suite. Doug's career took the family to many locations, including an exciting foreign posting to New York City in the mid 1960's, but Calgary was most often home.

Editor's note: Doug Stoneman was Executive Vice-President for Resources and a legend at Shell Canada. His abode there was likened by one employee as being like that of an emperor with numerous well-endowed rooms with luxurious carpets and private bathrooms. Under his “rule” individual engineers were made (or not) and his imprint on the organization lasted well beyond his tenure.

Taylor, Nicholas (Nick) William. Born November 17, 1927 in Bow Island, Alberta and passed away October 3, 2020. Nick grew up as the eldest of five children on a farm outside Bow Island in southern Alberta. He traveled to Medicine Hat for high school and went on to the University of Alberta, graduating in 1949 with degrees in Geology and Mining Engineering. Nick worked as a geologist for a variety of oil companies in the 1950's and "went out on his own" in 1960, forming Lochiel Exploration. In its heyday, Lochiel had offices in Calgary, Alberta; London, England; Syracuse, New York; Tel Aviv, Israel; Cairo, Egypt; and Istanbul, Turkey. Nick was a true entrepreneur and tenacious businessman who believed the measure of a person was not in how many times he failed, but in how he learned from his failures and kept on moving forward. These beliefs were tested often over the years as the energy market ebbed and flowed through some trying economic times.

During this time, Nick discovered a passion for politics and found that the values of the Liberal Party were closely aligned with his own. He set out in the federal Liberal Party, running in Calgary Center during the 60's and lost by a heartbreaking margin to the long-time incumbent for the Conservatives. Heartened by the near win and philosophical as ever, Nick decided

Albertans should be able to choose which Liberal Party and liberal philosophy suited them, and went to work building the Alberta Liberal Party from the remains of the moribund provincial wing of the federal Liberal Party. He led the Alberta Liberal Party from 1974 to 1988. As a politician, Nick loved a good debate, rife with quips, quotes and humour. He could take a good ribbing as well as give it, but at the end of the day he always respected his opponents. Various articles referred to him during this time in Alberta politics as the "likable and quotable stalwart" and the "lone voice in the wilderness," who held his Liberal caucus meetings in a phone booth." Nick was a sitting Alberta MLA for Westlock-Sturgeon and Redwater constituencies from 1986 to 1996. In 1996, Nick received an offer from then Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to fill a Senate vacancy in Alberta. He accepted and served as a Senator from 1996 until his retirement in 2002, at the age of seventy-five. Nick enjoyed the Senate, and served on several different House committees, making significant contributions in each case; he respected Canada's parliamentary system, believing in the need for a strong opposition and holding the government accountable.

Editor's note: Nick was a recent member of the Petroleum History Society and attended a number of our luncheons. On one occasion the speaker was Kevin Taft who had also been a leader of the Alberta Liberal Party – so it was interesting to have two specimens of that same species in the room at once!

Thomas, Godfrey (Geoff) Edward. Born February 4, 1925 in Bettws, Wales and passed away June 7, 2020. Geoff was born in the coal valleys of southern Wales, United Kingdom. Despite modest upbringings he attended university on a scholarship. He was awarded his M.Sc. from Cardiff University in 1951, the same year he immigrated to Canada. Geoff loved to sing. He always attributed his best career move to an on-demand performance to a prospective employer "who hired him on the spot after hearing him sing". Geoff moved to Regina, Saskatchewan to work as a petroleum geologist. In 1955 he and his family moved to Calgary. Geoff worked for many years as an independent geologist, and was responsible for bringing many exploration companies to onshore UK in the heady days of the North Sea oil discoveries. Later, managing the Canadian operations of a Denver-based company gave him the opportunity to combine base business with his passion for geology. Geoff, in his heart of hearts was always an explorationist. One could say he never retired from geology as he always had a gold play to dream of, a rock to polish or an oil well to be drilled.

Vanden Brink, Antonie (Tony). Born October 10, 1928 in Enschede, Holland and passed away September 8, 2020. Tony was the first child of thirteen and was raised in the Dutch Reformed Church, surviving the food shortages of the thirties. His curiosity and high intellect were recognized early in his life at fourteen when his school teacher met with his parents to encourage finishing high school rather than the typical transfer to trade school. This highly unusual request was accepted, and Tony became a lifelong learner. He was a voracious reader often by streetlight long after lights out. He lived in Holland, just west of the German border, during WWII and, served in Indonesia with the Dutch Marines at the ripe old age of eighteen. The Marines paid almost twice as much per month as the Dutch Army and their nicer-looking uniforms were well liked by the girls. Three years serving in Indonesia started Tony's love affair with spicy food, the hotter the better. While Tony was in Indonesia, his brother Jake was sent to Canada to investigate the potential of this country as a new home for the family after the war left Europe decimated. In February 1950 Tony, along with his father and two brothers, came to Canada to check it out for themselves. His father then sent for the rest of the family. His mother

and the nine remaining children set sail for Canada to settle on a farm in Rocky Mountain House purchased with savings from Jake's work in Canada.

Tony's first job in Canada was at the Provincial Training School (P.T.S.) in Red Deer. Realizing there was little room for promotion, the always striving Tony struck out for employment on the drilling rigs and landed his first job in the oil patch with SEDCO. Upwardly mobile, he started in the dumb corner (roughneck) and worked his way up at lightning speed to Tool Pusher in three and a half years and to Field Superintendent in another four years. Five years later Tony ventured out on his own purchasing Petrolia Drilling with two partners. The merging of Petrolia Drilling with Kenting Aviation and subsequently Trimac Ltd.'s acquisition of Kenting Ltd. led Tony to the corner office from which he retired in 1988. His illustrious oil and gas career was crowned by his induction into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2002. Also during that year, Aubrey Kerr penned Antonie Vanden Brink's biography as a "*Thought Leader and Humanitarian*" subtitled "*Dumb Corner to Corner Office*". A map hung in Tony's Bel Aire home with pins of his travels, black for places he travelled to for business and red for places he travelled to for pleasure. With the exception of Antarctica, he travelled to every continent in the world.

As Tony was a student of the world he was also a student of the game of golf. He had a love of the game and was always trying to improve whether by lessons or buying the latest and greatest piece of equipment. The golf course was a place where relationships were fostered and lifelong friendships created. Where else could you have four captive hours to promote business or cement friendships? He thoroughly enjoyed his fifty-two year tenure at the Calgary Golf and Country Club especially for the experience, both golf and culinary! Retirement to Tony meant "doing what he wanted" and he wanted to work for himself. Tokay Resources, now Tokay Capital, was created to house all the business ventures that interested him - and there were many. Relationships established throughout his life became his partners and his handshake remained his contract. Tony was conducting business right up to the week before his passing. Once all hope of recovery was removed by his doctor, he succumbed in less than an hour, quick and final as with all decisions Tony made.

Editor's note: Tony was a Lifetime Member of the Petroleum History Society and attended many of our functions over the years. He often had an insightful question or two for our luncheon speakers based on his broad industry experience. Tony was also always a friendly face at the annual induction ceremonies of the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame.

Ward, Maxwell William. Born November 21, 1921 in Edmonton, Alberta and passed away November 2, 2020. Max was educated in Edmonton and began his aviation career in the R.C.A.F. in 1940, training pilots during WWII. After the war, he followed the heroes of his early years in Edmonton and went on to fly bush planes in Canada's far north, demonstrating his life-long love of flying, adventure, enterprise and the Arctic, and contributing to mapping the Canadian North. In 1946 he organized his own air operation, Polaris Charter Company Limited, based in Yellowknife, with one single-engine aircraft, a de Havilland Fox Moth, hauling prospectors and supplies into mining exploration camps. In 1948 he entered into a partnership that formed Yellowknife Airways but in the fall of 1949 left aviation to enter the home construction business in Lethbridge, Alberta.

In 1953 he established Wardair, based in Yellowknife with a newly-acquired de Havilland Otter and a licence to operate a domestic charter from that location. In 1954 he bought a DH Beaver

and in 1955, a second Otter. He gradually expanded his operation by adding a new aircraft each year. In 1957 he purchased the company's first heavy aircraft, a Bristol freighter. Using oversized tires, he and his pilots pioneered the air transport of heavy equipment into the far Arctic and in May 1967, made the first landing of an aircraft on wheels at the geographic North Pole. Max grew the company into one of Canada's largest scheduled carriers over the next 25 years. However, in the face of rising costs and the need to take on additional debt, he sold the company to Pacific Western Airlines in 1989.

He received many honours over the years including the Order of Canada in 1975. He was inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame in 1993 and was one of the original inductees into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973. Max was married to Marjorie for 76 years. Obviously a man of decisive action, he asked her to marry him on their first date. Since the Fox Moth flights in the 1940's, Max's love of the Arctic and the adventure it offered shone as he and his family enjoyed summers at Redrock Lake on the NWT.

Editor's note: Although Max Ward wasn't directly associated with the petroleum industry, the aviation services that he pioneered and provided enabled the industry to operate in places that would otherwise have been inaccessible.

Ziff, Paul. Born October 26, 1951 and passed away November 28, 2020. Paul inherited a strong sense of public service from his parents. Growing up he experienced firsthand the profound impact they had upon the politics and educational institutions in his childhood home of Fort Erie, Ontario. As a teenager, Paul began a lifelong interest in politics. While attending Harvard University, a year abroad in Paris studying at the Institute d'Etudes Politiques at the Sorbonne, marked the beginning of his enduring passion for the arts.

Following graduation from Harvard, Paul moved to Montreal where he delved into the field of international lending. He soon moved to Calgary and began his long and storied career in the energy field. After joining the Alberta Petroleum Marketing Commission in 1976 and specializing in natural gas pricing, he became an oil and gas investment analyst before starting his own consulting practice in 1982. Driven in part by his strong opinions on natural gas issues, it grew into the Ziff Energy Group, regarded as a training ground for the industry. With Gordon Clarke at his side, the company pioneered a method of production efficiency analysis for the industry that spread to over 40 countries. Paul was a prominent speaker in North America on energy issues and industry performance, and a frequent presenter at the World Energy Conference. By the time Ziff Energy Group became part of Solomon Associates of Dallas in 2013, he was regarded as "an icon of natural gas energy."

Paul's interest in the arts was marked by the same fervour with which he built his career. In addition to being an ardent collector of Canadian art, he served over the years on the boards of the Alberta Ballet, Alberta Theatre Projects and the Calgary Jazz Society. Paul conducted his life with a strong sense of integrity, honesty and fairness.

Editor's note: The analyses that Paul Ziff and his associates provided were central fodder for strategic discussions and decisions in the Canadian petroleum industry for many years. Aspects like finding costs for exploration and operating costs for development made or broke many endeavours. What also sticks in my mind are the colourful and well-illustrated reports that were produced and circulated.