

## MEMORIALS



ROBERT M. CREED  
1943 - 2000

Bob Creed passed away at his home near Calgary on August 7, 2000 after suffering a massive heart attack. His passing leaves a huge void in the collective oil and gas community in Canada. He was a brilliant innovator whose numerous contributions have affected the minds and careers of too many individuals to mention.

Bob was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia on April 8, 1943 and attended high school in St. Catharines, Ontario. He enrolled at Dalhousie University in Halifax and received his B.Sc. degree in Chemistry and Geology (1966) and his M.Sc. degree in Geology (1968). His move to Calgary as a geologist with Amoco Canada (then Pan American Petroleum) was the beginning of a long and successful career in the Canadian oil industry. He left Amoco in 1977 and held senior positions with Unocal, Webb International Minerals, and the Canadian and US operations of Canadian Hunter. In 1981 he formed his own company, Far-Away Resources, and undertook many roles as a consultant, strategist, prospect generator, oil finder, educator and mentor, earning the utmost respect and admiration of his colleagues, clients, and students throughout the oil industry. His most recent achievements include his appointment as advisor to the Native Peoples of the Northwest Territories on matters relating to oil and gas exploration and production, as well as his appointment to the National Advisory Board on Earth Sciences for the Federal Government in Ottawa.

Bob was a long time member of the CSPG, AAPG, RMAG and was registered as a Professional Geologist with APEGGA. He served on several CSPG Committees including the Advantage Committee (1993-2000), Public Relations (1980-85), Special Projects Chairman (1986-89), Publicity Chairman for the 1975 CSPG Convention, and was the CSPG Representative to the Petroleum Resources Communication Foundation (1976-86). He co-authored annual reviews of emerging oil and gas play types and exploration activity in

Western Canada for both the CSPG and AAPG Bulletins. He taught the annual Introduction to Petroleum Geology course for the CAPL and was a key participant in the CSPG annual showcase course, "Geology and Exploration Models of the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin".

Bob Creed was a geologist's geologist, a geophysicist's geologist and an oilman's oilman. He was creative, meticulous, and a consummate professional. He was an example for any geologist who ever packaged and presented a play concept or prospect. No detail was ever overlooked. He was always talking to the rocks. "Have you looked at the core?" he would ask and in the next breath he would inquire "Why does this synthetic seismogram just have a sonic log?" Without a doubt, Bob was the epitome of the mission statement of the CSPG, embodying natural scientific ability, curiosity and a professional demeanor.

One of us (AEW) will remember in particular the many years of close friendship and working relationship, which kept me on the learning curve every time we talked. Our agenda list was never-ending and we enthusiastically buried ourselves in the topic of the moment. I never saw him downcast, and I continually marveled at his upbeat expressions: "everything is OK"; "it'll work"; "not a problem"; "good times"; "not a crisis"; "go for it"; and his classic daily use of "I'm doing just fantastic!" as he extended his hand in welcome. He was the stranger who came into my life when we met in 1968 and who had a profound effect on me, as my friend, partner, teacher and philosopher.

The other of us (CJY) remembers the patient teacher and mentor. As a brand new junior geologist working in a major oil company, I learned the fundamentals of the business from a master. From land acquisition through to the meter station, Bob understood the technical and commercial elements of the industry and he developed that understanding

in all his geologists. He taught me the power of integration with other disciplines and how to extract the very best from my peers. He taught me the importance of creativity and innovation, technical ability, and continuous learning, but he instilled in me, and demanded of all, a positive, upbeat, optimistic, "can do" attitude. He always pushed me to be a playmaker, to make things happen, to never give up. He was truly an explorationist in every sense of the word and selflessly shared his knowledge, skills, and capabilities with others.

It will be difficult for Bob's many colleagues and friends to accept the reality that he is no longer with us. Yet we can rejoice in the memory of the man who taught us so much and feel privileged that we had the opportunity to know and work with him, enriching our lives forever. No man could accomplish more than this.

*A. Easton Wren  
Colin J. Yeo*