

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
DANIEL S. BARKER**

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Daniel S. Barker, professor emeritus, Jackson School of Geosciences, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.



Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

**IN MEMORIAM
DANIEL S. BARKER**

Daniel Stephen Barker, F. M. Bullard Professor of Geology Emeritus at The University of Texas at Austin, died May 21, 2015, in Austin. He was born in Waltham, Massachusetts, on February 27, 1934, the only child of Kenneth Watson Barker and Sadie Brown Barker. Raised in rural Maine, he may be the last UT faculty member to be educated in a one-room schoolhouse. After graduating in 1952 as valedictorian from Cony High School in Augusta, Maine, he attended Yale University on full scholarships, graduating magna cum laude in 1956. He then earned his M.S. degree in geology in 1958 at the California Institute of Technology, and in 1961, his Ph.D from Princeton University.

He came to Austin in 1963 and stuck. In 1964, he and Barbara Catherine Mackin wed and produced Molly in 1965 and Amy in 1967. These they considered their finest achievements. He and Barbara remained the best of friends long after their marriage ended in 1984, until her death in 2002. In 1994, Dan and Rosemary Brant married in a joyous union that lasted until her death in 2006.

Dan enjoyed thirty-six years of teaching and fifty years of research at the University. He supervised seven doctoral students and eleven masters students. He demanded that each come up with his or her own original research topic and write a proposal that competed with him for his endowed research funds. In 1994, he was awarded the Jubilee Medal of the Geological Society of South Africa, and the Knebel Distinguished Teaching Award in the Department of Geological Sciences in 1976, 1980, and 1987. In 1991 and 1999, the College of Natural Sciences conferred on him the Teaching Excellence Award. Dan was most gratified when students called him, Obi-Wan. He was a Senior Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America and the Geological Society of America, and received several research grants from the National Science Foundation. Dan was a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow in Denmark in 1974. He published a textbook, several guidebooks, five encyclopedia articles, and more than fifty peer-reviewed papers and book chapters.

Dan retired in 1999 but continued his research and made a variety of contributions to the University of Texas Digital Repository. All geologists will find some material to enjoy at the following link: <http://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/handle/2152/12/browse?value=Barker%2C+Daniel+S.&type=author>. Most enjoyable to non-specialists may be his PowerPoint slide shows on a variety of topics. Igneous petrologists and specialists in Trans-Pecos geology will value the folder "Magmatism in Trans-Pecos Texas," which includes insights and compilations of published and unpublished data, updated by him in 2014.

Dan believed in careful study of rocks as keys to understanding how the earth works, and he went all over the world collecting samples. He collected in many countries such as Africa, Europe, Canada, Cape Verde Islands, Japan, Greenland, and in many parts of the U. S. especially Texas. His enthusiasm for collecting inspired his colleagues to do the same. Dan organized the combined collections and began preparation of a detailed compilation of the rocks together with guides and publications about them. In 2013, he made a substantial contribution to start the Jackson School of Geosciences International Rock Collection Endowment. The combined collections are a superb resource for teaching and for research, and they will be useful to geologists all over the world, especially with the aid of future contributions to augment the endowment he began.

Dan contributed to the teaching strengths of the department by his own work and by his influences on colleagues. His publications contribute to our understanding not only of the geologic development of West and Central Texas, but also of the processes that form a wide variety of igneous rocks generally. His contributions will have a lasting impact on the department that he served for over fifty years.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Earle McBride (chair), Leon Long, and Doug Smith.

Distributed to the dean of the College of Fine Arts on September 3, 2015, and posted under "Memorials" at <http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/>.