IN MEMORIAM

MYRON H. DORFMAN

Professor Myron H. Dorfman had a long and distinguished career as an independent and successful oil and gas operator, as a professor and former chairman in The University of Texas Petroleum Engineering Department, and as a researcher and advocate of geopressed-geothermal energy for the past eighteen years. At the time of his death he held the W.A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr. Centennial Endowed Chair in Petroleum Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin. He was Acting Director of the Center for Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering for two years and Director of the Texas Petroleum Research Committee, Texas Railroad Commission, from 1982-1986.

In his career as an oil and gas operator, he learned to integrate geologic and engineering principles and became very successful in this competitive, high risk, high reward business.

In his career as a researcher, he published over 50 papers on formation evaluation, well logging, and geopressed-geothermal energy. He was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and also was listed in Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in Engineering. He was the Society of Petroleum Engineering’s Distinguished Lecturer, 1978-1979, and was designated as SPE "Distinguished Author" in 1982.

As an advocate of geopressed-geothermal energy he lectured, organized, and chaired conferences, made trips to Washington to give testimony before congressional committees, and generally supported this area of work in every way that he could. For many years he served as coordinator of DOE’s Geopressed-Geothermal Research Program.

But it was Dr. Dorfman’s concern for students that will perhaps be his most memorable legacy. Brian Sullivan, now an attorney in Austin and one of his first students, recalls how three or four times a month Dr.
Dorfman would wander down the hall and invite several students to lunch, where he would invariably pick up the tab after allowing this guests to feint a reach for their wallets! Even as it became increasingly difficult, Dr. Dorfman's continual wish was to spend a little more time in the classroom with the students he cared so much for.

Robert M. Berdahl, President
The University of Texas at Austin

H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Ben H. Caudle (Chair), Steven L. Morriss, and Larry W. Lake.