

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Fred DeVito

1937-2004

Inducted in 1995



Born in Newark, New Jersey, Fred began collecting minerals in local Traprock quarries in 1951 and in many eastern localities, often in Franklin or Nova Scotia. He received his B.S. in biology from Cal. State U., Long Beach.

In 1968 he moved to Riverside, CP. and soon found the Crestmore quarries to be complex mineralizations, mostly micro. With help from Dr. Joseph Murcock, U.C.L.A., and the geology department of U.C. Riverside, Fred identified many species,

co-authoring "Contact Metamorphic Minerals—Crestmore" (March 1977).

At Long Beach State U., he authored "The Occurrence of 17 Minerals Found at Crestmore 1965 to 1970" (May 1971). With the help of Dr. Bill Wise and his laboratory at the U.C. Santa Barbara, Fred co-authored "The Jensen Quarry" published in the Mineralogical Record (Sept-Oct.1984).

Fred and his wife, Joyce, purchased the micromount business of Wayne and Dona Leicht and established their own dealership, "Microworld" (1976-1985). They purchased several other micromount collections including those of Earl Morehead, Russ MaFall, Dave Jamrisk, and Alice Kraissl.

Moving to the Santa Monica Mts., he found many unreported microminerals, some within the city of Los Angeles. With help from Dr. Bill Wise identities were confirmed, leading to articles for M.S.S.C. (1972-1992).

He authored the "Microscoop" column for M.S.S.C. Bulletin (1978), was M.S.S.C. president (1987-1988), and president of F.M. Southern California (1989). Fred now lives in central California and is working on microminerals of the Sierra Nevada foothills. His micromount collection (10,000) in large part was self collected.