

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Louis Perlof

1907-2004

Inducted in 1981

Premier photographer!

Lou started photographing hand specimens with a Brownie box camera, and photographing micromounts with an Exacta SLR camera adapted to an early Bausch and Lomb microscope. He was the acknowledged leader among micromounters in photographing ever smaller mineral crystals to ever greater perfection.



A mineral collector since boyhood, often with Neal Yedlin, he became a micromounter in 1945. He amassed a file of many thousands of superlative slides of micromounts.

Both his slide collection and micromount collection (over 19,000 specimens) are the world's largest. Both are filed according to the Dana classification system.

Lou embellished the theme of every one of the annual Baltimore Micromount Symposia with his slide programs which were classic not only for the perfection of form and beauty shown but also for his accompanying mineralogical instruction.

His was the first major collection that consistently emphasized mounting to show crystals to the best advantage. Lou's was also the first collection that consistently emphasized mineralogical aspects such as twinning, unusual forms, irregularities, zoning, phantoms, inclusions and associated minerals. His slide programs reflected this time after time.

His expertise set an example worthy of emulation but difficult of achievement. Lou gave of his time and talent to symposia, mineral shows and mineral clubs, nationwide.