Micromounters Hall of Fame

Carroll E. (Shorty) Withers ? - 1981 Inducted in 1995

A man called Shorty (his preference) born Carroll É. Withers in Boise, Idaho, was educated in New Mexico, graduating from college in Las Cruces.

Early interest in nature led to collecting specimens including minerals but choosing engineering for a career, obtaining his masters degree at the university of Colorado at Boulder. Settling in the Denver area after war service with the Navy Seabees, he was with the US Bureau of Reclamation.



Developing a keen interest in mineralogy and mineral localities during his work on the Glen Canyon Dam in Arizona he began collecting and studying minerals at every opportunity throughout the west. He became a noted photographer leading to teaching and lecturing throughout the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, the A.F.M.S., mineral shows and mineral clubs. His photomicrography led to making many slide programs used in his lectures and teaching.

Shorty regularly had micromounting sessions in his home. For the last decade of his life he was Honorary Curator of Micromounts under Curator Jack Murphy in the Denver Museum of Natural History. He gave his micromount collection to the museum subsequently building its usefulness as a research source, reference collection and educational resource.

He often attended micromount symposia including Baltimore and Southern California. A member of the Colorado Mineral Society, he was also a member of numerous Colorado and New Mexico mineral clubs.

Short of stature but long on personality, Shorty was a very knowledgeable mineralogist and micromounter with a history of demonstrating by his actions a noteworthy hallmark of micromounting-SHARING!