

Memorial of Robert Mann Grogan July 17, 1912–December 26, 1982

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Robert M. Grogan, Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, died suddenly on December 26, 1982, in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

Born in Mendota, Illinois, he was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1935 with a B.S. degree. He received his M.A. degree in 1936 and his Ph.D. in 1940 from the University of Minnesota.

Bob began his professional career in 1937 with the Illinois Geological Survey. Although his formal education and training had been mainly in the field of "hard rock" geology, he was quickly challenged by the many problems and opportunities related to the exploration and development of industrial minerals within the state.

At the start of World War II, Dr. Grogan was assigned to work with the Survey team in the fluorspar district in Southern Illinois. Great efforts were being made at that time to expand production of this essential mineral, and intensive geological work was needed to provide assistance in the discovery and development of new ore. Bob pioneered the study of bedded deposits in the Cave-in-Rock district. Many of the new concepts he developed relating to structural control and mineralizing environments became guidelines for orienting future exploration programs and interpreting drilling results.

Later he was given responsibility for portions of the Survey's wartime activities in the lead-zinc district in the northwest corner of the state, which included mapping the accessible crevice lead deposits, geochemical and biogeochemical exploration investigations, and structure mapping as a guide to locating new ore deposits.

Following the war, Bob participated in a program to examine and report on all the principal fluorspar deposits in Mexico as a consultant for the Armour Research Foundation, which was making a study for an agency of the Mexican government.

In 1951 he joined E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Wilmington, Delaware, as a staff geologist. He rose to Manager of the Geology Division in 1960 and was appointed Chief Geologist in 1974, a position he held until his retirement in 1976.

Bob was a recognized expert in the exploration, evaluation, and development of industrial minerals, especially fluorspar and heavy-mineral sands. The search for economic deposits of these commodities took him to five continents and more than a dozen countries during the last twenty years of his career. His keen sense of professional responsibility and desire to share experiences gained

through the years led him to publish nearly thirty papers and articles.

In addition to an active corporate career, Bob enthusiastically supported his profession by involvement in the American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME) and Society of Mining Engineers (SME) for 35 years. He began by serving on various committees in the Industrial Minerals Division and eventually became its chairman in 1958. He was a member of the Editorial Board for *Industrial Minerals and Rocks* for the third edition in 1959 and the fourth edition in 1971. In both editions he either authored or co-authored the chapter on "Fluorspar and Cryolite." He was a director of SME as the industrial minerals representative from 1965 through 1967 and was elected president of SME in 1972. He served as a director of AIME from 1971 to 1973 and as vice president in 1973. He was chairman of the Hal Williams Hardinge Award Committee in 1965, chairman of the Rossiter W. Raymond and Alfred Noble Award Committees in 1966, and chairman of the Henry W. Krumb Lecture Series Committee in 1969; he served on the Engineering Achievement Award Committee during 1968–70 and in 1974 worked with Past President Austin on the AIME Ad Hoc Committee on Constituent Society Organization.

Bob also participated in the Society of Economic Geologists as treasurer, member of Council, and of Executive and Finance Committees from 1963–1976, the Geological Society of America, Mineralogical Society of America, Mining and Metallurgical Society of America, and the Mining Club. He had been a member of the U.S. National Committee on Geology and served on the Board of the American Geological Institute.

He is survived by his wife Jean, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania; a son David, Statesville, North Carolina; twin daughters Sara Mauritz, Portland, Oregon, and Sandy Dresser, Vienna, Virginia, and five grandchildren.

Those of us who had the privilege of working with Bob knew him as a kind and understanding person. He always found time to discuss problems and offer a variety of solutions based upon a broad background and depth of geologic knowledge which he shared freely with his staff and colleagues.

For these many reasons, Bob will long be remembered by the profession for his contributions to the field of industrial minerals, but even more, by his family, friends, and associates who knew him as a true gentleman and "geologist."

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