

Edward C. Beutner

Edward Beutner of Ashland, Oregon, died at home of complications of lymphoma on December 23, 2008. He was born in Tucson, Arizona on March 22, 1939 to Louise Beutner and Edward L. Beutner. He grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, an area that imbued him with his lifelong love of the outdoors and of geology. He graduated from Oregon State University in 1963 and received his Ph.D. in structural geology from Pennsylvania State University in 1968.

After working as a research geologist for Shell Development Company based in Ventura, CA, he joined the Department of Geology at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA in 1970, from which he retired as

Professor of Geology in 2003. His teaching was recognized by the College with the Lindback Award for excellence in teaching and by the National Association of Geology Teachers with the John Hall Moss Award. In 1993 he was elected Chair of the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division of the Geological Society of America, the first person from a liberal arts college to hold this post, and he also served as President of the Yellowstone/Bighorn Research Association and as chair of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club. He was an Associate Editor of the Bulletin of the Geological Society of America and Geology. He published research on the origin of slates, the formation of curved mountain belts, and the tectonics of the northern end of the San Andreas fault.

Most recently, and continuing after his retirement, he worked to solve one of the oldest problems of North American structural geology, the mechanism of emplacement of the Heart Mountain slide in NW Wyoming, the world's largest rockslide.

Edward and his beloved wife of 29 years, Betsy Beyer, moved to Ashland upon retirement. He is also survived by his wonderful daughter Kate Beutner, of whom he was ridiculously proud; by Kate's husband Travis Brown; and by one brother, Tom K. Beutner of Pittsburgh, PA. Donations in his memory can be made to either the Geoscience Founders Society at Franklin & Marshall College or to the website www.CaringBridge.org