

Sadness Fills Our Hearts

~ Carl E. Mason ~

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Veronica I. "Ronnie" Jones
Managing Publisher

And so, the year 2011 has claimed yet another of our close friends. Carl E. "MudMan" Mason, left this earth Christmas Eve at the young age of 83.

Carl was a true "northern" gentleman. He and I quickly became friends many years ago as I was entering the drilling industry. Giving me some subtle hints as to who was who and what was to happen when, helped me get a grip on what I was to expect.

I fondly remember the time when Kathy and I were at the Michigan Ground Water Show. His booth was positioned next to ours. As trade shows begin, exhibitors usually get to visit with their "neighbors". And that visit is one I think of often. You see, Carl had a photograph album with him. He was kind enough to share some of those photos with me. I can still see the farmhouse and that big red barn nestled majestically on the hillside in Pennsylvania. He was so proud of that farm. And oh, to hear how affectionately he spoke of his wife. Yes, Carl was truly a gentleman in all respects.

Every time I saw Carl, he would beam that smile, adorned in that "red" Baroid color. He was a pleasure to see and made you smile no matter what was on your mind.

Sadly, Carl's wife Flora passed away in 2009, just two short years after this photo was taken during the 2007 New England Water Well Association Conference. To lose one you cherish as much as he did his wife is tough in and of itself, but to lose one you spent a lifetime (59 years) with, is disheartening. And so, now Carl is with his beloved Flora to spend eternity together.



Carl and Flora were blessed with 4 children: Jerry C. Mason; Ronda Leitch (William), Ann Flowers (Jeffrey), and Barbara Ford (John); 12 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren, and 1 sister, Grace Emerick (John).

As many of you know, Carl was devoted to the water well drilling industry for over 40 years. He began at Sanderson Cyclone Drilling Company in Orrville, OH, and was a regular fixture at Baroid IDP, Houston, TX. Carl traveled as a renowned expert in his field resolving issues on water well drilling sites worldwide.

With his vast experience, he was a natural teacher and conducted thousands of seminars and field demonstrations across the United States, Canada, and Africa.

He was a life member of the National Ground Water Association, Pennsylvania Ground Water Association, as well as a member of numerous other groundwater organizations in the north-east United States. He was a life member of the Grange and the Bedford Presbyterian Church.

I wish I had a photo of his farm to share with you, but his family vouches for his love of farming and the outdoors. Perhaps you won't mind my sharing these photographs of Carl during a couple of the many events he covered.



In addition to his other activities, Carl owned and operated CM Consulting



& Equipment (now operated by his son Jerry), Bedford, PA. The company manufactures mud mixers and desanders. (Pictured to the right in the photograph above.)

And so as this New Year begins, we look fondly back on our friends who have departed, especially Carl, and send our sincerest sympathies to his family and friends.

*Ronnie, Al, Michele, Kathy,
Bonnie, Marcel, Mary Lynn,
Samantha, Tiffany,
Brian, and Jennifer.*

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