

Richard L. “Dick” Moberly, Emeritus Member

Prepared by John Moylan

The Kansas City/Omaha Section has lost one of the Section’s pioneer members and one of the most respected engineering geologists in this area. Dick was an active member of the KC/O Section for more than 40 years. He graduated from Kansas City University (UMKC) and went to work for Woodward-Clyde Consultants in St. Louis, Missouri. After a short stay in St. Louis, he transferred to the Kansas City office of Woodward-Clyde (later URS Consultants) where he spent the remainder of his professional career. Dick conducted geological investigations for a large number of the major construction projects in the Kansas City area as well as hydrogeological investigations for many major groundwater contamination sites in the central United States. He also conducted investigations for the design of new underground projects or stabilization of existing underground openings. These projects included underground storage projects, the Trans Missouri water supply tunnel, stabilization of operating storage facilities, and stabilization of existing openings to allow safe construction on the land surface above the mine.

Dick co-authored the “Geology of Greater Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas” with Syed Hasan and John Caolie in 1988. The publication is one of the publications contained in the AEG’s “Geology of the Cities of the World” series. Dick was a friend, colleague, mentor, and a great source of information on the engineering geologic properties in the Kansas City area for many of us. He was also an excellent and enthusiastic amateur photographer.

Much of Dick’s time after his disability related workload reduction was devoted to cataloguing underground developments in the Kansas City area and to geologist registration activities. He was the first and only geologist member of the Kansas Board of Technical Professions. He was first appointed to the board soon after the Geologist Registration Law was passed in 2000 and was still serving at the time of his death. He was the 2008-2009 Chairman of the Board of Technical Professions. Dick worked tirelessly to promote geologist registration in Kansas.

GOOD BYE OLD FRIEND