Arnold Heiko Bouma

September 5, 1932 — December 16, 2011
God saw you getting tired, and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered, "Come with Me." With tearful eyes we watched you slowly fade away. Although we loved you dearly, we would not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, your hard-working hands put to rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.

Celebration of Life
Wednesday, December 21, 2011, 11:00 am
ARIA Memorial Chapel · Dallas, Texas

Order of Celebration
Opening Prayer ............................... Harrison Bouma
Eulogy ........................................... Jeff Lowery
Life Reflections ............................... Video Tribute
Words from Arnold's Sons .................. Mark Bouma, Bob Bouma & Lars Bouma
Music of Remembrance .................... Bob Seger
   "Like A Rock"
Scripture Reading ........ Sydney Bouma & Carleigh Bouma
   Psalm 23
"The Lord's Prayer" .......................... Colt Webb
Recessional ....................................
Arnold H. Bouma, “A truly caring man who put his family and students first, who truly impacted thousands of lives.” Surrounded by his family, Arnold H. Bouma passed away the evening of December 10, 2011, at the age of 79.

He is survived by his best friend and wife for over five decades, Lieneke; their three sons and their families, Mark A. Bouma and wife, Elizabeth, and children, Tamara Bouma, Logan Bouma, and Kelsey Bouma; Bobby Bouma and wife, Gina, and children, Colt Webb and Sydney Bouma; Lars Bouma and wife, Vicki, and children, Harrison Bouma and Carleigh Bouma.

He was known internationally in the geological world as “an extraordinary geoscientist, a prolific author and editor, an educator committed to the highest standard of teaching and a researcher who advanced the geocommunities’ knowledge through his innovation, creativity and tireless contributions to deep-water sedimentology and stratigraphy.”

Arnold Bouma was born in 1932 in Groningen, Netherlands. His professional education started at the State University at Utrecht, Netherlands, where he earned a Masters of Science in Geology, Sedimentology and Paleontology in 1959 and a PhD in Sedimentary Geology in 1961. Arnold Bouma’s 1962 research findings identified a sequence for dividing deep-water turbidites into intervals, which later became known as “the Bouma Sequence”; it has been cited as being “a geological milestone of the 20th century.” In 1966, Arnold and his family emigrated to the United States, where he accepted a professorship in oceanography at Texas A&M University. From 1975 to 1981, he was a marine geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Between 1981 and 1986, he was a senior scientist, manager, and acting vice president for Gulf Oil Research and Development Company. In 1986, he became a senior research associate at the Chevron Research and Development branch in La Habra, California. He left Chevron in 1988 to become the Charles T. McCord chaired professor at Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge, where he taught for many years. In 2005, he and his wife returned to College Station, Texas, where he held a position as adjunct professor with a bold plan to establish a Shale Studies Center at Texas A&M.

Arnold was the winner of LSU’s 2003 Distinguished Research Master Award and a distinguished lecturer and leader for the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM). His numerous awards include the Francis P. Shepard Award from the SEPM in 1982 and the Outstanding Education Award from the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies in 1992. In 2007, he was the recipient of the Sidney Powers Memorial Award, the AAPG’s highest honor. And in 2010, Arnold received the Doris M. Curtis medal for scientific excellence.

“There are still discoveries to be made, but it won’t be the computer that tells us what it all means, for that, we always have to go back to the rock.” AHB
Sometimes our light goes out but it is blown again into flame by an encounter with another human being. Each of us owes the deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this inner light.

~Albert Schweitzer

Acknowledgment
We offer our deepest thanks to you for all you have done for us.

~The Family of Arnold H. Bouma

Please make donations in honor and in memory of Arnold H. Bouma to the SEPM Foundation endowment fund (www.sepm.org) to help support future graduate academic studies.