

Excerpts from e-mail correspondence - Notes to Dave from some of those who could not attend the Symposium

Dear Dave,

Those early days when you were getting the LBL ultra-low temperature nuclear alignment program started are most memorable. I remember fondly your dinner invitations on my visits back to Berkeley during my Yale years 1968-1972. Your outstanding leadership as LBNL director was most important for all of us at the lab. Sorry I can't be in Berlin to join the celebrations. I am writing this from our hotel room in Como, Italy, the last day of our three weeks in Europe. Cheers,

John Rasmussen

Please extend my warmest greetings to Dave and Barbara. Dave shaped my life and I will be grateful to him as long as I live, and he knows that.

Eckart Matthias

I regret that I will be unable to attend the Symposium planned for David Shirley in July. I'm sure it will be an event to remember and a well deserved honor for Dave. He's to be congratulated on reaching the big 8-0. Hate to say it, but I'm due for that too next year.

Please say "Hello!" to Dave and others attending the Symposium. I know I will miss a great event.

Regards,

Gene Westenbarger

I worked with Cerium, Europium, Tellurium, Antimony, Cobalt and Einsteinium isotopes. In fact, our radioactivity nanny Gertie Boltz, once thought I had swallowed some Es 253 and sent me down to the campus to sit under a whole-body radiation detector for half an hour, although as far as I knew, Es 253 only emitted alpha particles. I also had to collect all my urine in big plastic bottles for the following weekend that I happened to be spending in Yosemite. Fortunately nothing was found...

Happy birthday, Dave. I wish you health and happiness in the years ahead. Thank you for manning the wheel as I made the perilous transition from student to scientist.

Richard Frankel

Unfortunately, I will not be traveling to Berlin for the Shirley Symposium. However, I am very appreciative of the effort you have put into organizing this event. Please give my best to Dave, Eckart, Dieter, Erwin Klein, Helmut, and all my other friends who will be there.

It is likely that Steve Rosenblum, Warren Easley, Norm Edelstein, and (maybe) John Barclay will hold some sort of Shirley group West Coast reunion this summer.

Jim Huntzicker

I am really happy to receive your email and note that you are organizing a symposium in honor of Dave. It is a fitting tribute for Dave who contributed significantly for the advancement of science and trained many scientists. I plan to attend and keep me posted.

With best regards to all the former Shirley group members.

G.N. Rao

I have very pleasant memories of my 2 years (1972-74) as a postdoc in Dave's group (the tail end of his LTNO research program), and I send regards to those whom I worked with during that time.

Best regards,

Ken Krane

Dear Dave,

Thank you for the opportunity and the freedom you gave me. Being in your group was a privilege. I did not understand at the time what a special group of people you had assembled, but in all the years since I left Berkeley I have never had the quality of colleagues that were in the Shirley group. We worked hard, we often fought, we partied, and we discovered some amazing science. It was an experience that will never be duplicated. I wish you all the best during this celebration, and wish I could be there to share it with you and those who are there.

Stan Williams

Working with Dave gave me the feeling that anything was possible, the only limitation being your imagination. I think he showed this belief when getting the ALS funded.

I do remember that Dave had a reputation for throwing phones about, probably on the occasion of heated discussions with SSRP staff, or possibly Bill Spicer.

Geoff Thornton

Dave taught us to be fearless in pursuing interesting problems and provided the resources and the environment to make progress certain - if not easy! I have tried to keep that mind set for the past 34 (!!) years, and my modest successes can be traced directly to his tutelage.

I want to salute Dave's leadership of the Berkeley Lab and the soft x-ray community, which was also fearless and more than a little prescient. I understood this superficially in real time long ago, but when I arrived in my new job - and occupied Neville Smith's old office - I found a paper document on a book shelf called "How the ALS was Built". This provides a history of the heroic effort Dave led to get the ALS funded in the late 1970s and 1980s. Dave fought, and eventually won, battles on all scales to make this happen. One of the more interesting things I have discovered in my new job is how much of a centerpiece the ALS has become at LBNL - not just the physical structure, but more importantly, the intellectual fabric in Berkeley and by extension to a large user community around the world. The initial estimate of approximately 300 users has now been exceeded 7-fold, and users who come here regularly communicate that it's simply a very fun place to come to do science. All of this was germinated in Dave's mind nearly 40 years ago. For that we should all be very thankful.

Steve Kevan

I thoroughly enjoyed my Berkeley years and was thrilled to participate in SSRL experiments. In those days, almost anything you did was interesting and revealed surprises. In those years the Shirley group consisted of the "gas-phase group," the "solid-state group," and Dennis Trevor and Jim Pollard working with their molecular beam setup. I also remember a couple of trips to SSRL to help Rolf Jaeger align the new grasshopper monochromator. That's what you had to do if you wanted to finish your thesis research. Those experiences and learning how to collaborate served me well in the following years.

Steve Southworth

This is a very nice offer and I'm sure it will be a great event. I will try to fill in some of the blanks in the Alumni chart. I will also provide a few sentence summary of what I've accomplished over the years. I'm actually still at Bell Labs as you can see, but I departed research entirely in 2007.

Charlie Bahr

-- As for me, I have remained active in the field since leaving UCB. I have a continuing program in x-ray AMO physics at the ALS in Berkeley, still doing, in part, some electron-TOF spectroscopy of gases, like in the old days (along with RIXS and ion measurements). As you can see from my 'signature' below, I am now a Distinguished Professor at UNLV. I've been there since 1991. Right now I am on sabbatical in Paris with the group of Marc Simon.

My best wishes to you and to the rest of the Shirley "mafia."

Cheers,

Dennis Lindle † 04.10.2014

Dear Günter,

we are now at the ESRF doing a Synchrotron Mossbauer experiment. Many of your friends and collaborators are present here, and many remember Dave Shirley and his contributions to Moessbauer spectroscopy and Photoemission using synchrotron radiation. Among the scientists present here are Gerhard Wortmann, Ralf Röhlberger, and Rudolf Ruffer. All of us want to congratulate Dave (and Barbara) for his respectful Birthday Party and Lecture. Personally, I and Rivka, are very sorry that we cannot attend the party. Best wishes to Dave and all participants.

Israel Nowik

Please offer my heartfelt congratulations and well wishes to Dave. I have many fond memories from my time in the group and often credit Dave for teaching all of us students what great science looks like and then encouraging us to perform up to that level.

Lou Terminello

Both my wife (Li-Qiong Wang) and I were students of Dave's. We are both now on the Faculty in the Department of Chemistry at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. I was a joint student between Yuan Lee and Dave and was at Berkeley from 1983 - 1990. My wife was in Dave's group from 1986-1991, working on ARPES and photoelectron diffraction.

I particularly wanted to thank him for introducing me to metal clusters and photoelectron spectroscopy. As a first-year student in 1983, during my very first meeting with him, this was what he told me that he wanted me to do: $\text{Cu} + \text{Cu} \rightarrow \text{Cu}_2$! I wish I kept the piece of paper that he wrote on! But I still remember this meeting with him vividly. Unfortunately, we were not very successful in making Cu_2 . However, 30 years later, we finally did Au_2 , still not Cu_2 yet!

We wish you a very exciting symposium and wish you to convey our best wishes to Dave and Barbara. I would also have liked to tell Dave that I met his undergraduate advisor in University of Maine when I gave a seminar there last year.

Lai-Sheng & Li-Qiong Wang