



Cecil J. Schneer

January 7, 1923 - February 9, 2017

Exeter - Dr. Cecil J. Schneer, 94, of Exeter, passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at his home.

Dr. Schneer was born in New York City on January 7, 1923, a son of the late Jacob and Sadie (Glass) Schneer.

Cecil was raised in the Far Rockaway neighborhood of Queens. He received his Bachelor's Degree in 1943, married his high school sweetheart, the late Mary N. (Barsam) Schneer, joined the US Navy and served in the Pacific Fleet, patrolling the west coast of the Americas.

After his discharge, Cecil entered graduate school and earned his Master's Degree in Geology from Harvard and his Doctorate from Cornell University.

Dr. Schneer taught at the University of New Hampshire in the Department of Earth Sciences from 1954 to 1988. In 1967 he directed the New Hampshire Inter-disciplinary Conference on the History of Geology and in 1976, served as secretary of the U.S. National Committee of the History of Geology. He was one of the founding members of the International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences and received many honors and awards for his research in the history of science and mineralogy. He also served as the editor of Scribner's Dictionary of Scientific Biography and authored over a dozen

books.

He is survived by his daughter, Jean Silverman and his son, David Schneer both of Exeter. Dr. Schneer was predeceased by Mary, his beloved wife of over 58 years who died in 2001 and his brother Richard Schneer.

All services will be private. If desired, donations may be made to the Rare Book Collection, UNH Library, 18 Library Way, Durham, NH 03824, for cataloging and making the collection accessible to qualified scholars in the field of history of geology.

Tribute Wall



“ I was a student of Prof. Schneer in both his History of Science courses and one semester of Mineralogy. He was a superb teacher who made you think of the "bigger picture". He was also very respectful of all students ... He's the one professor I will always remember. sincerely, Kathleen Langone



Kathleen Langone - February 14, 2023 at 04:47 PM

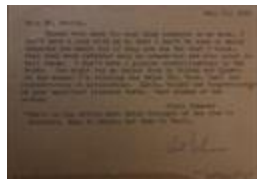


“ Cecil J. Schneer

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Edward L Fertik - May 13, 2019 at 05:00 PM



“ Dr. Schneer taught me to love the history of science. His book "The Evolution of Physical Science," which I happen to have just finished rereading, remains brilliantly provocative. I regret that I cannot thank him again for the pleasure and enlightenment he added to my life.

Andrew Alden, UNH 1974

Andrew Alden - June 20, 2017 at 07:51 PM

PH

“ I have such fond memories of all the wonderful times we shared in Durham, Newfields, Switzerland and Vienna. Your family was such a lovely part of our Durham past and will remain in the legacy your amazing father and beautiful mother added to those years. Even though they are no longer with us, they will always be part of the times we shared and will have our gratitude for all the things they did and made life so much richer for those who were part of their lives. Cecil's accomplishments are impressive and will remain so for the generations to come. That must be a comfort to you, in your loss, which is shared by all of us still here and can let you know what your family has meant to mine.

With deepest sympathy, Phyllis Heilbronner

Phyllis Heilbronner - March 13, 2017 at 11:40 AM

CC

“ Dr. Schneer was my professor and advisor when I was an Earth Science major at UNH. I was 1 of only 2 women in the major at the time. Dr. Schneer was a wonderful support and mentor. To this day, I remember him as one of my best and favorite teachers.

Cathy Coakley

Cathy Coakley - March 09, 2017 at 11:20 AM

UM

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Professor Schneer. He was dear to me as a scientist and learned teacher at the University of NH. - Ursula Morin, '67

Ursula R. Morin - February 15, 2017 at 03:34 PM

TS

Cecil, my wife and I will miss your wry smile and New York City sense of humor. Our thanks to you and your wife Mary for the many wonderful evenings at your riverside resort in scenic Newfields , NH. All the best with your new found freedom and your next adventure.

*With Much Love,
Thomas M. and Johanna Hatch Schwartz*

Thom Schwartz - February 19, 2017 at 06:26 PM

RL

Our thoughts are with you, Jeanie and David. love, Rachel and Sarge Legard

Rachel Legard - February 21, 2017 at 04:36 AM

KM

*I have such fond memories of the times Jack and I spent with Cecil and Mary. They exemplified the meaning of hospitality. Cecil was a true gentleman and scholar. My love to you, Jeannie, and to you, David.
Kathy Mulhern*

Kathy Mulhern - March 10, 2017 at 05:58 PM

KT

Cecil was an important figure in the field of history of geology. The New Hampshire historical conference he organized in 1967 brought together a large fraction of those then engaged in scholarly study in this field, and the resulting book (edited by Cecil) was influential in raising the profile of such studies. Cecil was himself a creative thinker, remembered in particular (to name just one of his accomplishments) for his pathbreaking article on the beginnings of historical geology.

In addition to being a passionately dedicated scientist and scholar, Cecil was a wonderful man, and excellent company -- smart, witty, generous, and kind. I feel privileged to have known him.

Kenneth L. Taylor

Kenneth Taylor - March 23, 2017 at 10:23 AM