

Medal in Memory of Ian Campbell  
2008 Medalist  
Larry D. Woodfork



On behalf of the American Geological Institute and its Member Societies, it is an honor and privilege to be the citationist for Larry D. Woodfork, the 2008 Ian Campbell Medalist. Larry was born on May 30, 1939 in Vincennes, Indiana and was educated in the public schools in Vincennes. He received an associate degree in engineering sciences from Vincennes University, undergraduate and graduate degrees in geology from the Indiana University at Bloomington, and completed additional postgraduate studies in statistics and petroleum engineering at West Virginia University.

Larry's diverse and very productive professional career in the geosciences has spanned more than four decades and includes education, research, service, administrative, management, and leadership positions and experiences in government, industry, academia, and professional geoscience organizations. He began his career as a summer field geologist studying Devonian strata in Montana for the California Company (Chevron) in 1962. After graduation from Indiana University, he accepted a position at Humble Oil and Refining Company in its South Texas Division (Exxon) as a petroleum exploration geologist. In 1968, he joined the West Virginia Geologic and Economic Survey (WVGES) as a staff geologist in its Oil and Gas Section, and in 1989 he was appointed State Geologist and Director of the agency. During his tenure at the Survey, he concurrently held appointments as Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geology & Geography and the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources at West Virginia University. In that capacity, he served on graduate student research committees, mentored students, and provided advice to University leadership on the mineral rights holdings of the institution. He has authored or edited scores of publications on energy resources and the application of geology in addressing societal needs. For his contributions to academia, Larry was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the Department of Geology & Geography at West Virginia University and the Richard Owen Memorial Award as the most distinguished alumnus of the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Indiana.

Larry served the State of West Virginia and the WVEGS with distinction for 34 years. He provided the insight and vision required to build and maintain the geological research and public outreach service programs of the Survey in a cost-effective manner. Through his efforts, the WVEGS is an effective and scientifically respected state geological survey. During his tenure as State Geologist, Larry served on a host of state, regional, and national committees, boards, councils and commissions. His outstanding and timely service contributions were recognized by the Governors of West Virginia, Kentucky and Indiana by each awarding him the highest honor bestowed on citizens: the Distinguished West Virginian Award, Commission as a Kentucky Colonel, and Appointment as a Sagamore of the Wabash.

Larry's dedication and commitment to geoscience professional organizations are legendary. He has served as President of the American Geological Institute (AGI), the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), and the Association of American State Geologists (AASG). He was Chair of the House of Delegates of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and is a Senior Fellow of the Geological Society of America. For his distinguished service, accomplishments, and leadership to these national societies, he has received the following high honors and prestigious awards: AIPG Ben H. Parker Medal, AIPG Martin Van Couvering Memorial Medal, AIPG Honorary Membership, AAPG Honorary Membership, AASG Honorary Membership, and Eastern Section of AAPG John T. Galey Memorial Medal.

In 2000, Larry assumed leadership positions in the international geoscience community. He has served as an official United States voting delegate for the 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geological Congresses. He is a champion of the effort to establish the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE), which is an initiative of UNESCO and the International Union of Geological Sciences. Larry is serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Corporation of IYPE.

The Medal in Memory of Ian Campbell is awarded in recognition of an individual's performance and contributions to the geoscience profession. Clearly, Larry D. Woodfork's many and significant contributions and long record of distinguished service to the geoscience community and profession, and his exceptional achievements and visionary leadership unequivocally qualify him as an excellent selection for the 2008 Ian Campbell Medal.

Ernest A. Mancini  
Citationist