Arthur Baker III, former dean of Mackay School of Mines, University of Nevada, Reno, died on March 22, 1995, in Reno, Nevada. He was 71.

He was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, on April 29, 1923, and attended Waterbury schools, then entered Wesleyan University in Connecticut. World War II interrupted his education, and he entered the U.S. Army and received mountain training at Camp Hale, Colorado. Following this training he volunteered for the U.S. Army Office of Strategic Services (OSS), and served with that organization in Europe.

While in the service he met Dorothy Stamps; they were married in 1945. Dorothy died in 1991. Their three children, Patience Baker York, Arthur B. Baker, and Robert C. Baker, survive them. He also is survived by a brother, Robert W. Baker, and a sister, Barbara Baker Caine. Art remarried after Dorothy's death, and is survived by his widow, Emogene Gardner Baker, and her five children from a previous marriage.

Following the war, Art returned to Wesleyan University, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in geology in 1947. He continued his education at Stanford University (California), from which he received both an M.S. and a Ph.D. in geology in 1953.

Art began his professional career in 1949 as mine geologist with Coronado Copper and Zinc Company, at Johnson Camp, Arizona. It was there that he developed a love for the desert Southwest, and he returned there often throughout his life. In 1954 he joined Pinnacle Exploration, Inc., as exploration geologist, and directed exploration that led to the discovery of the Pitch Uranium Mine in the Marshall Pass District, Gunnison and Saguache Counties, Colorado. It was during this period that I first met Art and worked under his direction.

By 1958, exploration for uranium in the United States was on the wane, and Art set up and managed a precious-metals exploration program for Callahan Mining Company, parent company of Pinnacle Exploration, Inc. He also served as manager for Callahan Industrial Minerals Co., and Huntley Industrial Minerals Co. in Bishop, California.

Art began working as an independent consulting mining geologist in 1962, concentrating primarily in precious metals. From 1967 to 1972 he served as associate director of the Nevada Bureau of Mines. During his tenure there the Bureau underwent several organizational changes, including a change of name to the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology. Under Art’s direction, the Bureau entered into a cooperative program with the U.S. Geological Survey that advanced research in general geology and mineral resources, contributed to water resources studies, and promoted topographic mapping in Nevada.

When Vernon Scheid retired as the first dean of Mackay School of Mines, University of Nevada—Reno in 1972, Art Baker was appointed acting dean; the following year he was named the second dean of the school. During his tenure, he worked diligently and effectively with the Nevada legislature to secure funds to build the new Laxalt engineering building, and with...
mining companies for support of programs to help Mackay students. In spite of a continuously tight schedule of activities, he always found time to talk with the students and help them in any way he could.

In 1981, Art retired from the Mackay School of Mines and resumed his career as a private mining consultant. Although he worked with large companies as well as small, and served as an expert witness in court cases involving complex legal questions, he liked working with small mine operators best. The small operator, he always said, felt the excitement of prospecting and discovery much more than did the large company. He was quoted as explaining his role as a mining consultant: "I work mostly with two kinds of clients—one is the lawyer who needs my expertise representing someone in cases involving mines, and the other is the person who has invested money in mines and it is my duty to tell him to kiss his money good-bye."

Art was a member of the Geological Society of America, Geological Society of Nevada, Society of Mining Engineers of the AIME, Mining and Metallurgical Society, Nevada Mining Association, Society of Economic Geologists, and, not long before his death, National Rifle Association.

Although Art did not write extensively for publication, he was a prolific correspondent, and his letters to colleagues and friends were keenly anticipated and eagerly read, not only for the news they contained and his easy writing style, but also for the wry humor in them. In a letter dated December 15, 1993, he broke the news to me that he was seriously ill. "I have lung cancer, I am sure directly traceable to my intensive exposure to uranium, not to 40 years of smoking."

He was upbeat to the last. In a letter dated less than a month before he died, describing a recent, enjoyable trip he had taken with members of his family through old haunts in Nevada and California, he noted that the holiday had to be cut short because he had developed internal bleeding from an anti-inflammatory drug he was taking. "The doc recognized the problem immediately and took me off the medicine; I had only about two-thirds of a tank of red cells. I'm still not up to any real work, but I am getting there."

Field geology lost a great champion with Art Baker's passing. He will be missed by his many friends and professional associates, as well as Mackay students and staff who recall Dean Baker as a gentleman of the old school of mining.

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF A. B. BAKER III**

