Memorial to Samuel Warren Hobbs
1911–1996

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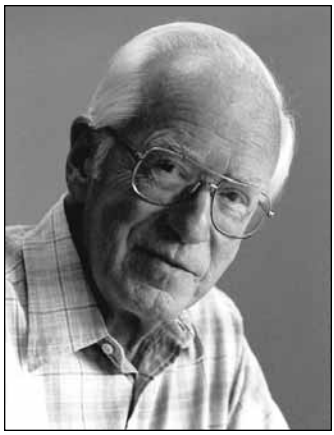

S. Warren Hobbs, Warren to his family, friends, and colleagues, died of cancer and the ravages of Alzheimer's disease on July 10, 1996.

Warren was a gentle person, a gentleman—an uncommon virtue then as now, and a splendid scientist, a field geologist most at home in central Idaho. He was mentor to a host of younger geologists who benefited from his great experience and thoughtful counsel. And he was a steadfast friend.

Warren Hobbs was born November 20, 1911, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Dr. Samuel Warren Hobbs and Harriet Peters Hobbs. The family soon moved to Issaquah, Washington, where Warren received his early education. He received his undergraduate education at the State College of Washington and the University of Washington, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from the State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington in 1937. He then entered graduate school at Yale University, where he received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1948.

Warren married Louise Katherine Hansen on October 25, 1948, in Washington, D.C.; it was a marriage of great strengths that lasted until Louise's death in 1993. They are survived by their two daughters, Nancy Hobbs Cary, and Linda Hobbs, and by one grandson, Alex Cary.

Warren's entire professional career was with the U.S. Geological Survey, which he joined in 1938 as a geologic field assistant; he was hired as a permanent scientist in 1940. He was a superb field geologist, an outstanding research scientist, and a leader of scientific programs. During the World War II years, he undertook a host of mineral resource studies, including exemplary work on nickel, gold, tungsten, lead, zinc, and silver. His studies of tungsten deposits, begun in 1941, made him an internationally recognized authority on the origin, occurrence, and reserves of this strategic metal.

Tungsten research at the Ima and Yellow Pine mines in central Idaho during the war years introduced Warren to Idaho geology. After a brief interlude of geologic mapping in the Canyon Ferry quadrangle, Montana, he returned to geologic mapping in Idaho in 1947, when he started a new project as the leader and guiding force of a large group of geologists studying the Coeur d'Alene mining district. His studies in the Coeur d'Alene district were pioneering, thorough, and scholarly, and provided the geologic setting for accompanying studies of the district mineral deposits. The resulting publication is a geological classic, and it established Warren as one of the foremost earth scientists in the United States. The project also established him as a talented administrator, and in 1958 he was transferred to Washington, D.C., to serve as chief of the Branch of Mineral Deposits in the U.S. Geological Survey. In 1960 he was appointed Assistant Chief Geologist for economic geology.

In 1963, he returned to geologic mapping, starting a new project in the confusing rocks and structure of the Bayhorse mining region of central Idaho. The Bayhorse study consumed the

remaining years of his professional career and led to still another series of classic maps and reports that will guide future studies in central Idaho for generations to come. In recognition of his outstanding accomplishments, Warren received the highest honor of the Department of Interior, the Distinguished Service Award, in 1972. He retired from the Survey in 1989.

Warren was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and he served as the Society's interim science editor in 1975 and 1976. He was also a Fellow and Councilor of the Society of Economic Geologists, and a director of Pubco, its publishing arm. He was a member of the Colorado Scientific Society, the Denver Museum of Natural History, and the Geological Society and the Cosmos Club of Washington, D.C., and he served as president of the Northwest Scientific Society. He served with distinction and great effectiveness as one of the original directors of the Evergreen, Colorado, Metro Recreation and Park District, and on the Citizens Advisory Commission for the Bergen Park (Colorado) Elementary School. He was one of the organizers of the Evergreen Central Metropolitan Water District, and served with distinction on its Board of Directors for more than ten years. He was affiliated with the Church of the Transfiguration in Evergreen, Colorado.

He was a wise and beloved husband, father, colleague, and friend. He enriched the lives of all who knew him.

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