



## Weldon Goble Frost

January 28, 1931 - July 2, 2017

Weldon Goble Frost, 86, a retired petroleum geologist, Longboat Key, FL passed away July 2, 2017 following the complications of Pulmonary Fibrosis. He enjoyed a wonderful life, rich with adventures, much enjoyable accomplishment, perhaps some mishaps and miscues, but filled with bountiful love.

He was born January 28, 1931 in Kane, Pennsylvania, the second child of Max Weldon and Elizabeth (Goble) Frost, who both later became practicing podiatrists. He looks back on his parents' lives as not being perfect, but certainly well above average. He was raised in small-town DuBois, Pennsylvania, and graduated from high school there in 1948.

At the ages of 16 and 17, he spent two life-changing summers working on the ranch of Wilbert and Bonniebelle Manning near New Castle, Colorado. The Mannings taught him the agrarian way of life, the joy of accomplishment that comes from hard work, and provided a loving home-away-from-home.

Thereafter he attended the Colorado School of Mines -- at that time the World's Foremost College of Mineral Engineering -- on a full-tuition scholarship and graduated with honors on May 29, 1952 as a Geological Engineer. He went to work four days later for an affiliate of Socony-Vacuum Oil Company (later Mobil Oil Corporation) and had an excellent 37-year career

with Socony/Mobil.

He began working in Wichita Falls, Texas, then Venezuela (1953), Libya (1954), [Penn State – 1955/56], Turkey (1956), French West Africa (1958), New York HQ (1958), Paris (1960), Libya (1964), Indonesia (1974), New Orleans (1977), and finally London (1981). He knew that he had enjoyed extremely good fortune throughout most of his career – "How rare it is to work in the oil business and get to live and work in New York, Paris and London!!!"

On a bright, sunny morning in June 1968 he married Brenda Taylor, an ever-smiling English girl -- and someone who was to remain the constant, profoundly-enduring love of his life -- in the British Embassy, Tripoli, Libya. Together they produced, and she proudly raised, their lives' most treasured endowment: two fine sons, both born in Tripoli.

Survivors include that deeply-loved, still-smiling-at-the-world-wife and best friend of 49 years, Brenda ("Management"); #1-son Terrence Weldon Frost (wife Rene') of Denver who runs his own IT service business; and #2-son James Taylor Frost (wife Kate, of Kate Frost, Inc.) of New Smyrna Beach who is Co-Director of the outstanding Atlantic Center for the Arts; and those three highly-beloved grandchildren (Max, Jolie, and Hudson).

His sister, Billie, preceded him in death. His faithful Beagle of over 15 years, Gunnar, also preceded him in death.

Recognizing that a society's standard of living is directly related to the amount of energy that it uses, Frost was extremely proud to have worked as a geologist for an energy company. He lived and worked on five continents, and left, along with many others, his fingerprints on many of Mobil's largest, and many smaller, oil and gas fields (Amal, Arun, Mobile Bay, Beryl).

He was one of the first four geologists to survey in Libya after that country opened up for oil exploration in 1954. He was one of the few of his colleagues who had work experience in the fields of surface geology, subsurface geology, and seismic before becoming a supervisor and then a manager.

For a period of 18 years he was an affiliate Vice-President and Exploration Manager in those last four postings. The Exploration Departments that he managed on four continents were immensely successful in discovering commercial oil and gas deposits and developing greater geological understanding of the area being worked. His management style, gleaned over time from many others, was to efficiently organize using small teams, to delegate, and then later follow up, thus leaving him some time to Manage-By-Walking-Around. He also appreciated the simple management principle of surrounding himself with good people and listening to them. "We have two ears and one mouth, and managers should use them in that proportion." There was no doubt that he held his people to high standards, and he captured a certain pride when he could help them feel successful in their lives.

Adding to the success of this period, Brenda ("Management") was uniquely successful among her peers in performing an important caring role as a Department Manager's wife, e.g., welcoming newcomers, entertaining visitors and subordinates, teaching English to foreign wives, and providing flowers and baby gifts as the occasions arose.

Following his retirement to Longboat Key in 1989, he busied himself with a Production-Sharing Contract in Equatorial Guinea, petroleum exploration consulting in the U.S. and abroad, investing in oil and gas projects, enjoying the beach, a bit of boating and fishing, some golf and tennis, skiing, traveling - including semi-annual trips to England and Spain – Habitat for Humanity,

genealogy, the occasional random act of kindness, household maintenance, and keeping in touch with long-distant friends and family. He was known for writing many sometimes humorous, pithy or snarky letters-to-the-editor of local newspapers, or to public servants, on any current subject that he felt might benefit from his "down to Earth" point of view. Many people may remember him as a shy person, but he grew out of this as he became older.

He was a member of Longboat Key Kiwanis Club and a very successful Chair of their Scholarship Committee for many years (from which he derived enormous personal satisfaction), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists for over 60 years, as well as Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Gamma Epsilon honorary fraternities. He was an active alumnus of both his high school and college, and an active member of the Emerald Harbor Homeowners Association. He founded and managed Frost Energy Company, which he called "the largest energy company on Longboat Key". On annual trips to Pennsylvania he enjoyed entertaining a non-functioning harem of high-school widowed classmates and widows of classmates.

On his daily morning walks he would tip his hat to the smiling passers-by, both men as well as ladies. One lady called him "The Last Gentleman on Longboat". Being an irredeemable dog-lover, he carried dog biscuits for the many four-legged friends whom he would meet on his daily walks.

Throughout most of his life, by fortuitous accident, he enjoyed a long-lasting warm and stimulating relationship with five really good long-distance friends: Rod Davenport and Dr. Ron Fair from high school; Dr. Stewart Chuber from college and Libya; and Bob Fuchs and (Best Man) Ray Flurry from the Mobil years. Neighbor Larry Harry was a walking, bicycling, and golfing companion for many years, and shared his encompassing love of Longboat Key. And he and neighbor "Cash" Register seemed to be always on the same page. Fellow Mobil employees Bruce Jones and Bill Duggan shared his retirement years.

A memorial celebration of his life will be held later in fall 2017 for family and friends at his home.

Accepting the inevitable, Weldon Frost left this beautiful blue planet with only one regret-- having to leave -- but, nevertheless, he held an immense gratitude for having been given the "Gift of Life" by his parents -- and ancestors -- so that he could experience such an incredible journey and live so well and so happily in so many places and with so many friends during this most fascinating period of mankind's history. He felt blessed to have been able to acquire during his journey some meager understanding of our marvelously complex world on which we all live ever-so briefly, within the incomprehensible vastness of an astonishingly complex universe.

He and his wife contributed to numerous charities, and during his retirement Weldon Frost "rang the bell" for the Salvation Army at Christmas for 28 years; so ("ding-ding") memorial donations may

# Tribute Wall



“ He was always "Jimmy" to me. I loved to visit he and Billie Mae in Dubois. Billie Mae taught me many things about growing up. Jimmy was a tall quiet person and really didn't interact with me or my sister (we were too young. LOL). It was after he started to travel and work for a company that I thought was doing much for the world that I knew I wanted to be like him. Do things that helped others and to travel the world. I am so glad he was in Hospice at the end. I send hugs and prayers to his family. Come Christmas in California, I will be adding to the "pot" in his honor and ask for an extra ring or two.

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**Betty Kay Bjornsen (Gobel)** - September 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember riding home to DuBois from Penn State in Bruce Bargerstock's Chevy with Barger, Frosty and Herman Finger for a weekend. Around 1955 I think. Those were the days. Jack Moulthrop Sayre Pa

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July 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Brenda,

*We are so very sorry to hear the sad news of Weldon's passing. The loving obituary conveys the interesting and well-traveled life he led with you by his side. It must be a difficult time for all your family and Ben joins me in sending our deepest condolences.*

*Jonnie and Ben Dorman*

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**Jonnie and Ben Dorman** - July 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ Brenda, I was so saddened to hear about Weldon, but I am glad he is at peace. He was a fascinating, lovely man. I'm especially glad we had that lovely drink not so long ago. Bless you and your family.  
Meredith

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**Meredith Ellsworth** - July 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Brenda, so sorry to hear of Weldon's passing. He was always one of my favorite clients. He will be missed by all. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**John Lopez** - July 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry that Weldon is no longer with us. We knew Brenda and Weldon over half a century; it all began in Tripoli/Libya and lasted through the years. So often did we talk about our center of professional life, the petroleum geology of the world, and all its connected details. We will keep the good memory for ever. For you, Brenda, and for the sons our love.  
Helga and Chris Pratsch, Houston, Tx

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July 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Brenda, you know how dear he was to us - and you are equally dear. Sad to lose half of a wonderful pair.

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**Jeanne and Bob** - July 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ My Tears are flowing. He was the best Uncle and Friend a Niece could ever have. He will forever be in my heart. Shawn Rene

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July 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

NZ

“ *Brenda, Im so sorry to hear about Weldon he was such a great person to me when I worked at Cedars Love to you and your family*

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**Natalie Girle Zanolli** - July 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM