

JOSEPH ANTHONY MANDARINO (1929–2007)

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Dr. Joseph Anthony Mandarino on September 18, 2007, in Toronto. His beloved wife, Joan (Cady), their four children, Jay, Cathy, Joe Jr., and Cindy, and their grandchildren, Elizabeth and Stephen, survive him. Joe's love of minerals was only exceeded by his devotion to his family.



Photo: Quintin Wright, Ottawa

Joe Mandarino was born in Chicago and received his BS and MS from Michigan College of Mining and Technology in 1950 and 1951, respectively. His PhD was granted in 1958 by the University of Michigan. From 1952 to 1954, he served with the U.S. Air Force as a First Lieutenant (at Goose Bay, Labrador, among other places). He took numerous summer jobs during his studies, as an instructor of mineralogy, as a geological assistant, and as a research assistant at Harvard, and from 1957 to 1959 he was an assistant professor at Michigan College of Mining and Technology.

Joe, a world-renowned mineralogist, is best known for his curatorship at the Royal Ontario Museum from 1959 to 1994. He also served as Acting Associate Director of the Royal Ontario Museum from 1990 to 1992 and was appointed Curator Emeritus in 1994. From 1983 to 1994, he was Chairman of the International Mineralogical Association's Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names (IMA-CNMMN) and became Chairman Emeritus when he retired. At the time of his retirement in 1994, he was deeply involved in the compilation and updating of data on the more than 4000 valid mineral species. This monumental undertaking (*The International Encyclopedia of Minerals*) was coming close to fruition. His son Jay, of C.J. Graphics, Toronto, printed a copy of the first volume so that his dad could see it in his last days. Some of his colleagues have undertaken to see this project to completion.

Besides his service on IMA commissions (Mineral Names and Gem Materials), he was a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America and a member of the Mineralogical Association of Canada (President from 1973 to 1975, Associate Editor from 1977 to 1979, and recipient of the L.G. Berry Medal), the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Joint Committee on Powder Diffraction Standards. Joe's many awards include the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal (1977); honorary membership in the Michigan Mineralogical Society, the Walker Mineralogical Club, and the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland; and an appointment as Honorary Director of the Canadian Gemmological Association. He was the first recipient of the Sandor Koch Medal of the Hungarian Mineralogical Foundation in 1996. Mandarinoite, an iron selenite from the Pacajake mine in Bolivia, was named in his honor.

Joe Mandarino's research interests were widespread and included the descriptions of some 17 new mineral species. He was fascinated by mineral optics and was intrigued by the Gladstone-Dale relationship between crystal optics and the chemical and physical properties of minerals. His studies in this field laid the groundwork for his taxonomic interests in mineralogy and resulted in the revising and checking of mineral data for innumerable species. This, along with his IMA work, led to his collaboration with Michael Fleischer on various editions of *The Glossary of Mineral Species* and eventually to the *International Encyclopedia of Minerals*. His list of publications is extensive and includes many technical papers, several books, and popular articles written for mineral collectors. At the time of his passing, he had several technical papers in preparation. One was published in the October issue of *The Canadian Mineralogist*.

One of Joe's special assets was his ability to bring formal mineralogy and its concepts to students and amateur mineralogists. He encouraged the careers of several distinguished mineralogists. He was cross-appointed as a professor at the University of Toronto from 1980 to 1991, where he taught both graduate and undergraduate courses. He was in great demand as a speaker at innumerable mineral-club functions, where his humorous and witty presentations were edifying and a delight for all to hear.

Not only will the professional mineralogical community mourn his passing, but so will mineral collectors and his many friends and colleagues. The Royal Ontario Museum has established a fund to purchase a fine mineral specimen in Joe's memory. Donations may be sent to the Royal Ontario Museum, Department of Natural History, attn: Dr. Kim Tait (Curator of Mineralogy), 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6, Canada.

Robert I. Gait and Malcolm E. Back
 Royal Ontario Museum, Department of Natural History
 Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6, Canada

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