

## **Harold “Stoney” Stonehouse: 1922 -2011**

Michigan State University Professor Emeritus Harold Bertram “Stoney” Stonehouse died December 2, 2011, at his home in Yucaipa, California. He was 89.

Stoney taught Mineralogy as well as other geology courses and served as field trip director for the Department of Geological Sciences for many years. He was the departmental advisor for undergraduate majors and Earth Science teachers before retiring in 1989.

Originally from Walton-on-the-Hill, a small village near Stafford, England, Stoney received his Ph.D. in Geochemistry, Economic Geology, and Mineralogy from the University of Toronto in 1952. He worked for American Smelting and Refining in New Jersey, and then the Illinois Geological Survey before coming to Michigan State University (MSU) in September, 1955.

Following his Fulbright Fellowship in Earth Science Education (K-16) in 1973, Stoney served on various state education committees to improve the teaching and learning of science in Michigan. He was named the Outstanding Education Specialist in Michigan in 1981.

Shortly after the founding of the Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association (MESTA) in 1967, Stoney started the long-standing association between MESTA and MSU; he served on its board and worked tirelessly to promote the excellent teaching of Earth Science. He was a MESTA Honorary Life Member and the Stoney Award, a mini-grant program to support innovative K-12 classroom ideas, was established in his honor.

At the February 13, 1982 MESTA Board Meeting, a \$500 grant for a mailing to promote a National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA) was approved. Information on the new organization was made available at the NSTA Convention planned for Chicago in April, 1983. This appears to be the first record of efforts by MESTA to start NESTA. The idea for a national group resulted earlier from a discussion between Dr. Stonehouse and Rod Cranson on a return trip to Lansing after attending an MESTA Executive Board Meeting.