

Memorial of Henry Edward Wenden 1916-1991

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Henry Edward Wenden, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geological Sciences of the Ohio State University and a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, died on December 13, 1991.

He was born in New York City on November 24, 1916. He received a B.S. in geology from Yale University in 1938. He spent four years during World War II serving with the Army Air Force and was discharged in 1945 with the rank of technical sergeant. He received an M.A. (1951) and a Ph.D. (1958) from Harvard University. Dr. Wenden was an instructor at Boston University from 1949 to 1953 and an assistant professor at Tufts University from 1953 to 1957. He joined the faculty of the Ohio State University as an assistant professor in 1957; he was promoted to associate professor in 1961 and was a professor from 1963 until his retirement in 1982.

Professor Wenden wrote articles in the leading mineralogical journals, was a coauthor of *The Changing Science of Mineralogy*, and made a substantial contribution to the 17th edition of *Dana's Manual of Mineralogy*. His research on the diffusion of ions in quartz led to his being awarded a patent for developing a method of changing resonant frequency of quartz oscillator plates. He was a consultant for Owens-Corning Fiberglas, E.I. du Pont de Nemours, National Cash Register, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Research.

Professor Wenden was a teacher with few peers. He possessed the elusive faculty of enlivening even the most mundane facet of his subject by drawing on personal experiences and a broad knowledge of the arts, history, and sciences. In discussions of advanced topics in his field, he would never fail to contribute an illuminating explanation or a simplifying approach. Dr. Wenden was presented with the Neil Miner Award by the National Association of Geology Teachers in 1962 for his eminence in stimulating interest in the Earth sciences, which was the first time the award had been given to a person in the



midst of his or her career rather than to one at the end of it. Dr. Wenden also received the Distinguished Teaching Award at the Ohio State University in 1964. For years he was deeply involved with the Teaching Commission of the International Mineralogical Association. His wisdom and counsel and the enthusiasm with which he transmitted his love of mineralogy will not be forgotten by the students and colleagues whose lives he touched.

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