

HONOUR ROLL CITATION FOR KIM KREIS

THE ROAD FROM AVONLEA

Although born at the Pasqua Hospital in Regina on 21st January 1959, Kim grew up and received his early education in Avonlea, sixty kilometres southwest of the city. His father taught school in Avonlea. At the age of nine, when his parents moved to Regina, Kim transferred to Glen Elm Elementary School. From there he went on to Balfour Collegiate.

His early years in Avonlea, close to the site of Late Cretaceous exposures and the evidence of a Pleistocene ice-push event, led to a life-long interest in geology. Always the explorer, he spent many happy hours roaming the badlands collecting fossils and mineral samples.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

To quote his long-time friend and colleague Dr. Jim Christopher “A true son of the Prairie, Kim radiated its warmth and openness”. Kim’s interests were broad: during his lifetime as well as geologist he was hunter, fisherman, sportsman, swimmer, party-goer, carol singer, field tripper, and world traveller. Fishing was definitely a major passion: other than pictures where he’s holding Deb, it’s hard to find one where he isn’t holding up a fish. At high school Kim played basketball and football and he played hockey for many years afterwards. Not only did Kim enjoy a good party, but he and Deb could host a good one, the best remembered being the carol singing parties in mid-December. I can’t remember a Society field trip where Kim wasn’t present. Not only did he go on these excursions, but he would do much of the driving, and would buy the groceries and beer for the mid-day lunch stop. He and Deb travelled widely especially after he retired from the Survey and became a consultant. He pursued all these interests with the same passion as he did his professional life as a geologist.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE...AND FAMILY

Kim and Deb met each other at a University of Regina Psychology Night Class. They were married at the Whitmore Park United Church Regina on 2nd September 1983. Three children followed: daughter Heidi, and sons Erik and Drew. Heidi was the first to get married and now has three children of her own.

THE GEOLOGICAL RECORD

Kim studied geology at the University of Regina, completing his B.Sc., degree in 1983. He joined the Saskatchewan Geological Survey (part of the then Department of Energy and Mines) the same year, beginning work at the Subsurface Geological Laboratory on Dewdney Avenue, where core and chippings from exploratory drilling by oil companies is stored and researched both by the Survey Geologists and industry.

He was granted educational leave to pursue a masters’ degree which he obtained in 1990 with a thesis entitled *Stratigraphy of the Jurassic System in the Wapella-Moosomin Area, Southeastern Saskatchewan*. Dr. Don Kent was his supervisor. This led to his promotion to Senior Petroleum Geologist at the Survey.

Honour Roll Citation for Kim Kreis

Between 1985 and 1989 he published eight papers in the annual Summary of Investigations, all of them on Jurassic formations that were either oil-bearing or had potential for oil discoveries. In 1991 this work was compiled as Final Report 217 *Stratigraphy of the Jurassic System in the Wapella-Moosomin Area, Southeastern Saskatchewan*. This is his signature publication on the geology of the province.

Between 1992 and 2005 Kim published fifteen co-authored papers and reports as senior author, that covered the geology of Sub-Duperow Formation brines, the Middle Cambrian to Lower Ordovician Deadwood Formation, the Middle Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, the Upper Ordovician Stony Mountain Formation, the basal upper Ordovician Red River (Herald & Yeoman) Formation, the late Ordovician Stonewall Formation, the Silurian Interlake Formation, and the late Upper Devonian Bakken and Torquay Formations.

Of the six other papers in which he was a collaborative author, three were concerned with meteor impact structures in the Phanerozoic, in particular the enigmatic Maple Creek Structure, which the Geological Survey of Canada investigated with drilling as a potential kimberlite intrusion.

Kim's ability to use mapping software coupled with his geological knowledge were major contributions to the initial Lower Paleozoic map series. These maps incorporated all the available stratigraphic data including the most recent work by Saskatchewan geologists plus a summary of the interpretation of that data.

By 2003 he had taken on management of the Manitoba - Saskatchewan mapping project of the inter-regional formations and their resource potential. Upon completion of that project in 2007 he entered private practice as a consultant.

As has been said before, it is difficult to quantify the impact of the Survey's reports, but it is likely that Kim's work and that of all the others who research and publish reports on the oil bearing and potential oil-bearing strata has done much to stimulate oil exploration and production in the Province.

THROUGH THE RANKS OF THE SOCIETY

Kim was the welcoming face of the Saskatchewan Geological Society for many years, moving through the ranks from Business Manager (1989), Assistant Program Chair (1994), Program Chair (1995), Vice President (1996), President (1997) and Past President (1998). He returned as Assistant Program Chair in 2012, 2017 and 2019 following up each of these years as Program Chair. Kim also organized numerous core workshops at the Subsurface Laboratory and assisted with the organization of many field trips through the years. He always went out of his way to ensure that the two foremost senior members of the Society, Dr. Jim Christopher and the late Dr. Don Kent had a ride to and from the regular monthly Society Technical Meetings.

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A TOAST TO KIM

It has been said that it's not the number of years you live that matters, but the number of good things you do in those years that counts. Kim certainly lived by that rule and because of it, is sorely missed by family, friends and colleagues. It is fitting that his memory will live on in the Society Honour Roll.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to Deb Kreis for family details and for many of the photographs used in the PowerPoint presentation. Some of the text is based on and expanded from the tribute to Kim that Dr. Jim Christopher wrote for the 2022 SGS Calendar *Our People*.