Hugh D. Guthrie (11.05.1919–17.02.2007)



Hugh D. Guthrie, who was one of the most prominent scientists working in the area of oil shale, has been well known among Estonian specialists.

Hugh D. Guthrie made an unforgettable contribution to the development of cooperation between American and Estonian specialists in the framework of the USA-Estonia international united project on oil shale. His vast professional experience, broad outlook and good will promoted to a great extent the successful research of Estonian oil shale in recent years.

His extensive experience included 33 years with Shell Oil Company as an engineer, senior technologist, group leader, and senior staff member.

He was also appointed under President Gerald Ford as division director with the Energy Research and Development Association in Washington, D.C.; director of the Energy Center at Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park; VP licensing manager of technical assessment at Occidental Research Corporation, Irvine, Calif, and Cities Service in Tulsa, Okla; director of extraction division, Morgantown Energy in Morgantown; and a member of the engineering boards at University of Iowa, University of California at Berkeley, and other universities.

Guthrie was a fellow and former president of the American Institute of Chemical Engineering, and a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Society of Petroleum Engineers, The New York Academy of Science, and the American Chemical Society.

His achievements included patents on distillation equipment used in refineries of Shell Oil Co. He was a leading technical expert in the oil, gas, and shale industry for 65 years.

Estonian oil shale scientists and specialists will always gratefully remember Hugh D. Guthrie as an outstanding scientist and a superb human being.

Editorial Board of OIL SHALE