

Shoemaker by Levy

DAVID H.



Texas Section

Shoemaker Scholarship 2018

To
Amanda L. Labrado
University of Texas at El Paso

Recommendation
by
Dr. Benjamin Brunner
University of Texas at El Paso

Glen A. Collier, P.G., C.P.G.
Chair, Scholarship Committee
AIPG-Texas Section

Henry M. Wise, P.G., C.P.G.
President
AIPG-Texas Section
www.aipg-tx.org

Rima Petrossian, Ph.D., P.G., C.P.G.
Vice President- Western Texas
AIPG-Texas Section

Shoemaker *by Levy* The Man Who Made an Impact

DAVID H. LEVY

It was a lucky twist of fate when in the early 1980s David Levy, a writer and amateur astronomer, joined up with the famous scientist Eugene Shoemaker and his wife, Carolyn, to search for comets from an observation post on Palomar Mountain in Southern California. Their collaboration would lead to the 1993 discovery of the most remarkable comet ever recorded, Shoemaker-Levy 9, with its several nuclei, five tails, and two sheets of debris spread out in its orbit plane. A year later, Levy would be by the Shoemakers' side again when their comet ended its four-billion-year-long journey through the solar system and collided with Jupiter in the most stunning astronomical display of the century. Not only did this collision revolutionize our understanding of the history of the solar system, but it also offered a spectacular confirmation of one scientist's life work. As a close friend and colleague of Shoemaker (who died in 1997 at the age of 69), Levy offers a uniquely insightful account of his life and the way it has shaped our thinking about the universe.

Early in his training as a geologist, Shoemaker suspected that it wasn't volcanic activity but rather collisions with comets and asteroids that created most of the craters on the moon and most other bodies in the solar system. Convincing the scientific community of the plausibility of "impact events," and revealing its power for penetrating mysteries such as the extinction of the dinosaurs and the timing of the Earth's eventual demise, became Shoemaker's mission. Through conversations with Shoemaker and his family, Levy reconstructs the journey that began with a young geologist's ardent desire to go to the moon in the late 1940s, but by the government to find a way to harvest plutonium, Shoemaker instead found evidence in desert canyons

Amanda Labrado



You have been provided this book because you have received the prestigious Gene M. Shoemaker Graduate Scholarship Award presented to you by the President of the AIPG Texas Section, **Mr. Henry M. Wise, P.G., C.P.G.** and other members of the Scholarship Committee:

Mr. Glen A. Collier, P.G., C.P.G.,
Chairman and Councilor-at-Large

Mrs. Rima Petrossian, Ph.D., P.G., C.P.G.,
Member and Vice President, Western Texas

Mr. Michael D. Campbell, P.G., P.H., C.P.G.,
Member and Vice President, Eastern Texas

Beyond the plaque you received, we trust that this book will enlighten you on why we chose to name our graduate scholarship in honor of the memory of Gene M. Shoemaker, Ph.D., the Father of Astrogeology.

We hope this award will challenge you to make a difference in your geological investigations now and in your future, while remembering those made by Gene Shoemaker through this book.

For additional information, see:
<http://aipg-tx.org/memorials-carolyn/>



Texas Section

March 30, 2018

Ms. Amanda Labrado
1417 N. Kansas St.
El Paso, Texas 79902

Dear Amanda:

The AIPG - Texas Section is delighted to award a \$2,500 Gene M. Shoemaker scholarship to you based on your outstanding application. A check for the amount and a plaque honoring your achievement are included with this letter. As a reminder, by accepting the scholarship, you agree to prepare a 600 to 800 word article for possible publication in *The Professional Geologist*. The subject of the article must be related to a timely professional issue.

I encourage you to continue your participation in AIPG. I have found AIPG and the associations and opportunities it provides to be invaluable in my career. I believe you will find the same to be true for you.

Best wishes for a rewarding career.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Collier, P.G., C.P.G.

gcollier@hudson.com