



Dr. Spencer R. Titley

Dr. Spencer R. Titley passed away in Tucson on Sunday morning, August 18, 2019. His public memorial service is at 1 p.m., on Monday, Sept. 16 at Angel Valley Funeral Home on 2545 N. Tucson Blvd. in Tucson.

Spencer Titley was born September 27, 1928, in Denver, Colorado, where he grew up and graduated from East High School in 1946. His first taste of the future was spent working as an underground miner at Cripple Creek and Idaho Springs during the summers of 1947 and 1948. Spence earned an undergraduate degree in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1951.

After serving in the Korean War, he returned to Gilman, Colorado in 1953, where he worked as a Staff Geologist for the New Jersey Zinc Company until 1955, when he began graduate work at The University of Arizona, earning his Ph.D. in Geology and Chemistry in 1958. From 1958 to 1960, he continued as Regional Exploration Geologist for New Jersey Zinc in Arizona and New Mexico. Spence joined The University of Arizona faculty as an Assistant Professor in 1960, progressing to Professor of Geosciences Emeritus.

Besides being a licensed commercial pilot, Spence was a prolific writer, prodigious scholar, prized consultant and teacher. His list of accomplished students, clients, grants, awards and honors reflect on his stature as a world authority of porphyry copper systems, metal provinces and metallogenesis.

An Honorary Life Member of AGS, Spence served as AGS President in 1974-75 and its Vice President of Field Trips in 1973-74. He was also a co-editor of the 2008 AGS Ores and Orogenesis Digest.

Dr. Titley was a true gentleman, a geologist's geologist, a student's teacher, and a client's consultant. He had a lasting impact on his students and the field of economic geology.