



Desmond H. Bond

October 2, 1941 - February 13, 2017

Desmond Harvey Bond resided in Mobile, Alabama from 2005 until his death, at age 75, from natural causes, on February 13, 2017. He was an accomplished scholar, prolific writer, chemical engineer, and a specialist in engineering and environment. He conceived and designed a speciality burner required for effective environmental control, for which a US patent was awarded; many such units are now operating in the United States and other countries. As a freelance journalist, he published numerous articles under the name Desmond Harvey. His language skills were notable, including translations of foreign works into English. In 1967, while residing in England, he co-authored a translation of "Die Erde," a German work concerning medical data. In 1969 he was editor of the English translation of a Russian chemical journal. In 1976 he translated, from the Afrikaans language into English, the novella "Mahala" by the late Christian Barnard, prize-winning South African author. Desmond Bond was born October 2, 1941. His father Kenneth Harvey Bond and his mother Winifred Ruby Bacon Bond were of British birth. He was born in Bloemfontein, South Africa but grew up in Johannesburg where he attended King Edward VII School. A bright student, he showed a particularly keen interest in the study of Latin. He could sing beautifully and was selected for a role in the school production of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera "The Pirates of Penzance." He was active in sports and was in the Hockey and Swimming Teams. In 1958 he passed matriculation in the First Class with a distinction in Mathematics. He obtained his B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering in 1966 at Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg, his M.Sc. in Chemical Engineering in 1972 at the University of Texas at Austin, and his M.A. in English in 1976 at the University of North Texas at Denton. In the 1970s and 1980s, Desmond Bond's professional positions, in sequence, included Senior Engineer for Texas Instruments, Inc. of Dallas, Texas; Senior Process Engineer for Ford, Bacon and Davis, Inc. of Dallas, Texas; Process Design Manager for Applied Technology Corporation of Houston, Texas; and Director of Energy Technologies for Wheelabrator Cleanfuel Corporation of Washington, DC. From 1980 to 2003, he was President/CEO of his consulting firm, Desmond Bond, Inc. of Fairfax, Virginia; and, in addition, he was Associate Professor for Graduate Courses in Power Engineering technologies and equipment, their economics, and their environmental requirements at George Washington University of Washington, DC. From 1988 to 1993, he was Senior

Manager—Technical for Central Energy Fund in Sandton, South Africa. From 1993 until a few years before his death, he was Principal Officer of Desmond Bond and Associates of Mobile, Alabama. He was a seasoned world traveler. During the course of his career as a specialist in engineering and environment he negotiated and managed projects in many countries including South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Japan, Philippines, Poland, Germany, Russia, Holland, Belgium, United Kingdom, Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, and the United States. In his thirties, he developed into an enthusiastic scuba diver. While a resident of Houston, Texas, he became active in the US Masters Swimming organization and participated in numerous swimming events and competitions. Later, while residing in Virginia, he helped organize and was president of a Masters Swimming club. He swam competitively with Masters clubs until the late 1980s. Afterwards, he swam for recreation until 2007, when he was diagnosed as having a disabling neurological disorder, which resulted in a severe case of ataxia that would increasingly curtail his physical activities. He was a man of varied interests. His sense of humor was wry and profound. He had a razor sharp wit and equally sharp pen, turning a phrase handily, persuading, influencing readers. He loved music, especially classical music and, in particular, Handel's "Messiah." He obtained a libretto and, often, as he listened to a recording of the majestic "Messiah" at Christmas time, he opened the libretto booklet and read silently along with the music. He also enjoyed country music, relishing the poignant, sometimes hilarious stories that country music tells. He kept on his desk a quotation from Norman Vincent Peale which reveals much about how Desmond lived his life: "The way to happiness: keep your heart free from hate, your mind from worry. Live simply, expect little. Fill your life with love. Scatter sunshine. Forget self, think of others. Do as you would be done by. Try this for a week and you will be surprised." He is survived and mourned by his devoted wife of nearly 47 years, Ann Lillian Snyder Bond of Mobile, Alabama and by his loving sister Rosalind Patricia Bond of Austin, Texas. He is also mourned by other family members, including his sisters-in-law, Juanita Smith of Raleigh, North Carolina; Joyce Williams of Sarasota, Florida; Gloria Becker of Carrollton, Texas; Sara Harms of Plano, Texas; and Karoline (Mrs. H. B.) Snyder of Grobenzell, Germany; as well as his brother-in-law Dennis Snyder of Mobile, Alabama; numerous nephews and nieces, and his close lifelong friends. Desmond loved poetry, especially poems of Christina Rossetti. Among papers in a stack found on his desk at his death was her poem with its immortal admonition and, now, its timely message from Desmond: "When I am dead, my dearest, sing no sad songs for me." Desmond's parting from this Earth was sudden. Now he is at peace in his Eternal home, where there are no sad songs, only the joyful celestial songs of angels.

Comments



“ Des will live on in so many happy memories and remembered family events. He left happy footprints wherever he went. My heart goes out to Ann in her great loss of her soulmate, Desmond.

Message by Juanita Snyder Smith - February 19, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ Goodbye Desmond, I will miss you. You were always a pleasure in my life. Thank you for all my happy memories of you I will always cherish. You were always the thoughtful, very unselfish, kind gentleman I was always so proud to call a member of my family. Your adored wife, Ann, my sister is grieving for you, but found a poem which is helping her. You would be so proud of how brave she is. I will always love you, Des.

Message by Joyce Williams - February 19, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ Vale Desmond,
62 years of sincere friendship and support. My best man and godfather to my one son.
A brilliant scholar with a heart of gold. Nothing was too much trouble for Desmond. I will miss his sharp wit and good humour.
My love and condolences to his soul mate, Ann
You will always be remembered
Go well, Rest in Peace,
Hambe khale, old and true friend

Message by John Wilson - February 19, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ I remember Des from my Ford, Bacon & Davis days. He was always kind to a newbie little piper learning the system. I gained a better understanding of what our company could do by talking to him. Some of his stories from plant start ups were a bit harrowing! I learned to duck, so to speak. I lost my husband of 37 years in 2015. The words I would give you, Ann, is that it does get easier. The first year will be very hard. The hardest part for me was to realize that life goes on, even when loved ones leave us. This poem is on my fridge. It helps me on the hard days. “Grief never ends... But it changes. It’s a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith... It is the price of love.” — Unknown

Message by Penny Thomas - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ The world lost a great asset and I lost a friend. I will always remember his humor and ready smile. Long live his memory. Mike

Message by Mike Lawrence - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ Aunt Ann, I remember the kindness you and Des showed me when I was a young college student. I still remember when Juana and I came to visit you in Fairfax. I was always impressed with uncle Des's character and his professional achievements. You will remain in our prayers, Love Mark and Patty

Message by Mark Smith - February 19, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ We have happy memories of times spent with Des during his visits to the UK from the 1970's onwards. We found him to be a modest man with a sharp intellect, interesting conversation and a good sense of humour. He was god father to our youngest son Harry and always made the effort to keep in touch. A true friend to the "Bourton team". Go well Des, you will always be remembered.

Message by Charmian and Richard Bourton - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ May God bless and comfort you.

Message by Dennis Watts - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ Desmond, you achieved admirable academic and career-related goals due to hard work and perseverance, however, your greatest achievement was to earn the love and devotion of a beautiful accomplished woman for nearly 47 years, my sister Ann, with whom my heart aches because of the depth of her grievous loss with your passing. This is a great tribute to the man you truly were. I honor you for your generosity to others, especially your kindness to me at the passing of my own dear husband in 1973.

Message by Gloria Snyder Becker - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ So much of this information is new to me! As a child, I remember meeting a big man with a strange accent that was going to marry my Aunt Ann! I remember a fun uncle who was competitive in Christmas games! He made us a plum pudding for one of our Christmas dinners to expand our horizons. Christmas pudding has never been confused with German Chocolate Cake! I'd like to think that I was generous with pudding compliments but as a teenager I'm guessing not so much kindness on my part. Another favorite memory was Des would call from wherever he was in the world, say, "Howdy!" in his best Texas drawl with his very strong South African accent as if we didn't know it was Uncle Des, and ask us if we knew who was calling? This always made him belly laugh!! I have many more happy memories of Uncle Desmond that I will cherish always. Love and prayers to my wonderful Aunt Ann ??????

Message by Cindy Rohrbough - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ What an incredible life story, and wonderful tribute to Uncle Des. Dear Aunt Ann, you are in my thoughts and prayers. May the Lord surround you with His love.

Message by Celia Darrah - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ I got to know Desmond well when we worked together at CEF. Apart from being a valued and steadfast member of the team, Desmond was a wonderful colleague. Kind and always with a ready smile nothing was ever too much trouble for him. Rest in peace Desmond.

Message by Howard Roberts - February 20, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ My memories of you at school are still vivid and in particular I enjoyed your sharp wit and intelligence. A fulfilled life making a difference in this world. Cheers mate, you will be missed.

Message by Buster Sefor - February 24, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ Dearest Aunt Ann, Your memorial to Uncle Desmond is such a loving and eloquent tribute to a much cherished husband, brother, uncle and friend. As the card said, "there are no words. . ." to adequately describe the truly magnificent man we knew as Desmond. I feel I can say I knew him "well." But because he was such a humble man, I knew only some of the accomplishments that you shared about Desmond. But I sensed how brilliant and accomplished he was from the time I first met him at your wedding. Desmond surely stood out in a crowd. He was tall and handsome with tons of charisma. He had that je ne sai quoi! What I can say with certainty is Des will always be the kind, loving older brother I never had before he became such a dear member of our family. Through the years he was a "rock" for us. He always stood tall, strong and comforting as we grieved. With his inestimable presence he comforted widows and children and brothers and sisters in the dignified yet loving way that was uniquely Desmond. But there are so many wonderful happy memories, too. Ah, the many sights, sounds and epicurean delights that flood my memories when I think of you and Desmond! I have such fond memories of the summer I spent with you both in Vienna, Virginia in 1979. Our trips to Monticello, Mount Vernon, Wolf Trap for amazing concerts, Gettysburg and others are still highlights of my life. I will never hear Handel's Messiah without smiling and remembering Des conducting and grinning through the performance. But the memory I cherish most of Desmond is the constant inspiration, encouragement and support that you both gave me through my long and tumultuous college and law school years. Perseverance and tenacity! "Never, never give up!" That was a great lesson and you both gave it so lovingly. We were given a priceless gift of time together in the Fall of 2015. The time was short but very sweet with you, Desmond and Dennis. Dearest Ann, one day we will have endless days of smiles with no pain or limitations. For as Psalms 30:5 tells us, "Weeping may endure for a night . . . BUT JOY COMES IN THE MORNING." Rest well Desmond. We will see you soon. I love you dearly, Ann Floy Juana Smith

Message by Floy Juana Smith - February 21, 2017 - April 20, 2017 at 01:02 PM