



## Dr. Bob Pruett

July 5, 1963 - July 25, 2017

Dr. Robert "Bob" James Pruett, 54, of Milledgeville, GA, died at home on Tuesday, July 25, 2017. All will remember his sense of humor, booming laugh, and kindness to others.

Born in Madison, WI, on July 5, 1963, Bob attended Madison West High ('81) and the Univ. of Wisconsin (BS Geology '85) before going to Indiana Univ. (MS Geology '88, PhD Geological Sci. '93).

His life as a loving husband and father began in New Jersey, where he started his career with Georgia Kaolin and met Diane Dlugosz. They married and moved to Milledgeville, where they raised three sons. He was a Green Bay Packers fan, led Boy Scout Troops 124 (GA) and 104 (WI), and served the Knights of Columbus.

Dr. Pruett was Director of Technology for Imerys in Sandersville, GA, and conducted business in the U.S., Brazil, France, England, Poland, and elsewhere. He had more than a dozen patents in clay processing and 17 publications. He was a member of the editorial board of Applied Clay Science since 1997 and served the Clay Minerals Society since 1985, including on committees and its board of directors.

Bob won the Industrial Minerals & Aggregates Young Scientist Award in 1994

and the A. Frank Alsobrook Industrial Minerals & Aggregates Distinguished Service Award in 2012, both from the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc., where he served as president in 2014. The Society also presented him with the Presidential Citation for his leadership developing the “Mining in Society” merit badge for BSA.

He is survived by his wife, Diane Dlugosz Pruett of Milledgeville, GA; sons, James Pruett of Oklahoma City, OK, Brian Pruett and Jonathan Pruett, both of Milledgeville; father, Dr. Charles Pruett, and stepmother, Edna Paske Pruett, both of Madison, WI; and sister, Dr. Renee Pruett McPherson (William) of Norman, OK. He was preceded in death by his mother, Rose Mary McDonell Pruett.

The family will receive friends at Williams Funeral Home of Milledgeville on Friday, July 28 from 5 to 7 PM. Bob was an active member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, where a funeral mass will be celebrated at 11 AM on Saturday, July 29, in Milledgeville, GA. Interment will follow in Heritage Memorial Park. Donations may be made in honor of Bob Pruett to the Clay Minerals Society, 3635 Concorde Pkwy, Suite 500, Chantilly, VA, 20151-1110.

# Cemetery Details

## Heritage Memorial Park

371 Log Cabin Road  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
(478) 452-2148  
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUL 28.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville  
1670 N. Jefferson St.  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
(478) 452-2148  
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

# Tribute Wall

CF

“ *May the God of all comfort give you strength, hope, and peace in this sad time. He cares very deeply about the pain you feel and the loss you just experienced. Philippians 4:6,7. So sorry for your loss.*

Calandra F. - August 02, 2017 at 07:52 AM

LE

“ *Bob was a true leader. He faced challenges head on and he never backed down from a problem. In fact, he was great at solving them. Diane, I am so sorry for your loss, and I'm deeply saddened that we've lost one of the best minds I've ever known. May his memory be for a blessing.*  
*Leslie McLain*

Leslie - July 29, 2017 at 09:13 PM

FR

“ *Bob was a notable mentor to me, and a world class geologist. He will be sorely missed.*

FJ Reisch - July 29, 2017 at 05:37 PM

CN

“ *Sorry to hear of Mr.Bob passing. Your family will be in our prayers.*

*Carolyn , Kathy , Karen , Nick , Tori , Britt Nolan*

Carolyn Nolan - July 28, 2017 at 06:23 PM



CP

“ It was a great pleasure to have Dr. Pruett visiting us at Porto Alegre-Brazil. He shared his knowledge with us at the University and more than that, shared his friendship and comittement during our collaboration. My best wishes to his familly in this hard moment.  
Dr. Carlos Petter.

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**Carlos Petter** - July 28, 2017 at 11:34 AM

CL

“ We are deeply saddened at Bob's passing. I had to honor to work with Bob in Cub Scouts Pack 3. He was a selfless leader who was dedicated to his sons and the boys in the Pack. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Diane, James, Brian, and Jonathan. We have fond memories of our Pack meetings, campouts, hikes, and Pinewood Derby Races!

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**Carl Langston** - July 28, 2017 at 10:43 AM

TT

“ Bob was a down-to-earth role model and a loving family man who also happened to be successful and influential scientist. I had the pleasure to get to know Bob during his graduate work at IU where special bonds developed with members of "Murray's Mafia" in the clay lab and he served as a groomsman in our wedding! Peace and serenity with you and the boys at this sad time and cherish the many memories that will keep his legacy alive long into the future.

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**Tom Toth** - July 28, 2017 at 10:11 AM

BH

“ Bob contributed greatly to youth in the Milledgeville area and David and I were blessed to have participated in Scouting with him. His kindness, generosity and smile were wonderful assets that will be missed by our community. Diane, please know that you and the boys are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Bruce Harshbarger*

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**Bruce Harshbarger** - July 28, 2017 at 09:32 AM

KM

“ Diane, James, Brian, Jonathan and family, Please know you are in our prayers during these days and months to come. We were so blessed to have you as next door neighbors for those years and watching the boys. You all are such a special and sweet family. May Jesus hold you and guide you through this time. Revelation chapter 21 describes Heaven with its foundation stones, walls and gates, all adorned with the most precious stones that we see on earth. I can imagine Bob walking with Jesus and taking all that inexplicable beauty in ! We love you all-- the Mills's

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**Ken Mills** - July 27, 2017 at 05:24 PM

IK

“ Bob was a fine member of the Industrial Minerals Division and a great clay scientist. His knowledge to industry has been cut too short!!!

*Ihor Kunasz*

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**Ihor Kunasz** - July 27, 2017 at 02:33 PM

BE

“ Dear Mrs. Pruett,

*We were so sorry to hear of Bob's death. Although we had not seen him since he left IMERYYS, we have often thought about him. We have all worked with and for Bob for many years as part of his analytical group. Please accept our deepest sympathy and we will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers in the days to come.*

*Wayne Andrews, Jondahl Davis and Berenice Everett.  
IMERYYS Materials Analysis Group*

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**Berenice Everett** - July 27, 2017 at 11:49 AM



“ 42 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory** - July 27, 2017 at 10:47 AM

FS

“ I work with Renee (Bob's sister) and just wanted to express my condolences to her and the whole family. She is a wonderful person and sounds like Bob was too and will be sorely missed. As a fellow scouter I know the amount of hard work he put into his unit leadership and I can imagine the effort in creating an entire merit badge. His impact on youth will be felt for many, many years not only in the lives he touched in person but those who benefit from his merit badge. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

*Fran Stephens, OKC*

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**Fran Stephens** - July 27, 2017 at 09:23 AM

SI

“ Diane...we are so very sorry for your loss. Prayers and thoughts with you today and always.

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**Steve and Judy Ivey** - July 27, 2017 at 07:24 AM

WH

“ This is very sad news to all members of The Clay Minerals Society who knew Bob. He was in line to become our Vice President and then President next year, and he will be greatly missed by his many colleagues. We send our sincere condolences to his family.

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**Warren Huff** - July 26, 2017 at 07:38 AM

MD

Tom and I are so downcast by this news. It's hard to believe he's gone, considering his optimistic and positive manner in virtually all situations! We will see you all soon. Hugs, Mary and Tom Dombrowski

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**Mary Dombrowski** - July 26, 2017 at 08:18 AM

PA

*Our profession lost a great Geologist and Mineralogist when Bob passed. He will be missed by all of us. I am sure he and Haydn will find a lot of kaolin in heaven together. The clouds are white after all.*

**Parker** - July 26, 2017 at 12:09 PM

EC

*Bob will be missed. He was a friend to many. Always fun to be around and always had a smile. RIP, Bob.*

**Ed Clements** - July 26, 2017 at 01:25 PM

BG

*Very sorry to hear of Bob's passing and at such a young age. We all shared the transition from the GK to the ECCL culture and eventually Bob put together a pretty good team for all our benefits. He will be missed!*

*Diane, I know you longer than I knew Bob, I know your faith in God will get you and your family through these dark times.*

**Bill Garforth** - July 26, 2017 at 03:47 PM

RM

*Bob was a great friend and colleague throughout the years and across the continents. He was also a true member of our clay group in his own individual style back at IU. All of us will surely remember some great stories we had together.*

*Last time I met him was when all said good bye to Haydn, now it is time to say good bye again. Farewell my friend.*

*Roland  
from Germany*

**Roland Merkl** - July 26, 2017 at 03:59 PM

AF

*Diane and boys we are so sorry to hear of your loss. Alesia and Steve Fortier and girls*

**Alesia Fortier** - July 27, 2017 at 11:37 AM