

Alan Kehew 1947-2023

The Michigan Geological Survey was transferred to Western Michigan University (WMU) on October 11, 2011 and the Interim Director was Dr. Alan Kehew. Dr. Kehew was a glacial geologist, hydrogeologist and past Chair of the Department of Geology at WMU. Dr. Kehew was one of several people at WMU who were instrumental in presenting justification for the Survey to reside at WMU. They showed how the



geology of Michigan was the foundation for identifying, assessing, and managing all of our geological resources, from the surface to thousands of feet below. Al Kehew will be remembered for his passion for geology, his mentoring of so many students and professionals, and his focus on the geology of the State of Michigan. Our team would like to dedicate this issue to Dr. Kehew and his contributions to the survey and university.

Dr. Kehew had an incredible journey in geology, starting with his Bachelors from Bucknell University. From there, he went on to Montana State to earn his Masters. He enlisted in the Navy shortly after and trained as a weather observer. Then, he completed his PhD at the University of Idaho in 1977. After completing his degree, Al worked at the North Dakota Geological Survey. In 1986, Al accepted a position in the Geology Department at Western Michigan University, where he remained for the next 34 years, moving from assistant to full professor and department chair from 1997 to 2002. His research continued to focus on hydrogeology and glacial geology. In the last 15 years, he mapped the glacial geology of several counties in Michigan. His research was published in numerous international journals, and he advised approximately 55 master's and PhD students at the two universities. He was elected to fellowship in the Geological Society of America for his research contributions and was awarded the Western Michigan University Distinguished Service Award in 2013. During his career, he wrote 4 editions of one textbook and one edition of another. One of the most rewarding projects in his career was an educational and cultural exchange collaboration with two Egyptian universities funded by the US State Department.