

Remembering Gene Mallove

Mike Carrell

My involvement with Gene Mallove was one of the significant encounters of my life. It led to pathways I would not otherwise have traveled, to vistas I would not otherwise have seen. For that I am continually grateful.

The Fleischmann-Pons effect was announced at about the end of my 38-year career with RCA. I was aware of the debates, but it passed from my attention as I was busy with consulting and volunteer work for several years. A cover story in MIT's *Technology Review* by Dr. Ed Storms reawakened my interest in cold fusion. I subscribed to Gene's earlier magazine (*Cold Fusion*), and to *Infinite Energy* when it began publication. I lurked on the science.physics.fusion forum and two sane voices emerged from the flames, those of Gene and Jed Rothwell. Jed pointed me to Vortex, where I have participated for years, as well as the Hydrino Study Group, devoted to the work of Dr. Randell Mills.

I could not judge the merits of various arguments by themselves, and wanted to see the people. I drove from the Philadelphia area to the Boston area for a seminar where Gene spoke. I shared a dinner with Gene, Jed, and Chris Tinsley. In that same period I began judging in the International Science and Engineering Fairs. At Birmingham, I found one student who had entered an unsuccessful Fleischmann-Pons experiment; behind his display was a copy of *Fire from Ice*. I put Gene in touch with the student, who later wrote a short piece for *IE*.

I realized that Gene was at the center of a network of information about unconventional science, the tender green things that grow in the cracks between paradigms. I made it my business to be on good terms with him, becoming a "friend of the family," giving assistance and support in many small ways. I visited his home with my wife, meeting Joanne Mallove and seeing the nook where Gene created the early issues of *IE* himself with a donated desktop publishing system. He also did the mailings himself.

We became close and I was a confidante in things he felt comfortable in sharing. As time went on, there were countless phone calls, e-mails, many visits to Bow, and a number of sleepovers at his house. He asked me to review books and do articles about some emerging technologies. These included Prof. Arata's work with his hollow Pd cathode filled with Pd nanopowder, Dr. Mills' BlackLight Power technology, and Dr. Paulo and Alexandra Correa's Pulsed Abnormal Glow Discharge. In addition I reviewed Joseph Newman's Energy Machine, a study of Bessler's Wheel, and others. All these were challenging, requiring hard study as they were outside my career involvement with electromechanical systems.

Gene was much more than a magazine editor. From the time he discovered that MIT had falsified positive evidence for cold fusion, he left a comfortable job and became a tireless advocate for not just cold fusion, but the whole range of neglected and anomalous energy phenomena. In some years, he had a teaching day job to make ends meet. An effective communicator, he sought out patrons and was a speaker at many gatherings of wealthy investors seeking the "new thing." A very generous patron supported him for sev-

eral years, enabling additional staff and a small laboratory.

Gene was a recipient of a continuing flow of papers, announcements of over-unity inventions, and the like. The papers were a mix of substantial work by competent scientists, sincere but misguided experimenters, and a scattering of possible over-unity devices. He interviewed many. There were visits to promising sites, and in some cases bringing devices to Bow to be tested in his lab with the help of Ed Wall, Jeff Kooistra, and Ken Rauen. Efforts were made to duplicate experiments and processes of interest. Gene had hope of setting up a demonstration room of prototypes of working over-unity devices for the press and investors. At one point he invested a significant amount of his own money in a device that seemed promising. In the end, nothing came of these ventures, which were undertaken in good faith and trust that someone could come upon a replicable effect.

During this time Gene asked me to be on the board of Cold Fusion Technology, the then parent company of *IE*. The other board member was Jed Rothwell. Gene, of course, had the sweat equity and it was his show, but I was pleased to be asked to participate in an active way. In time, events unfolded which created a situation where I resigned from the board.

In all of this, I developed a fondness and deep respect for the valor Gene demonstrated in his quest. He went out on limbs all the way to the twigs. In his best moments he was a generous, inquisitive, open human. He was also highly stressed. I once arranged for him to lecture at Temple University's Center for Frontier Sciences. While chatting in the departure lounge of the airport, waiting for his return flight, I asked him what he wanted. In a word, it was "vindication." The acute tragedy is that he died when vindication may be near in a report from the new DOE review.

When the history of this time and these events is written, Gene Mallove will have a place of honor among the pioneers.