



John "Alf" Thompson 1954 - 2010

John Alfred Thompson, one of many cold fusion researchers who worked behind the scenes and kept a fairly low profile, passed away suddenly on November 16, 2010 at the age of 56.

Alf, as he was commonly known, was born in Nassau, Bahamas on September 30, 1954. He received undergraduate and graduate degrees in engineering from the University of Miami.

Much of Alf's life revolved around the wonders of the Bahamian waters: boating, fishing and diving. For many years, he and wife Barbara operated Bahamas Marine Farms, the first successful fish farm on the islands. They had three children, John, Sarah and Stefan.

Alf and his partner Angela Darville split their time between homes in Nassau and Eleuthera, but he was known to travel the world to cold fusion conferences.

Alf spent the latter part of his life working in various scientific fields, with a main focus on cold fusion. As a result of an accident in a cold fusion lab, he and the late Dr. James Patterson discovered a revolutionary blood clotting powder. Biolife, LLC has sold over five million applications of the solution in the U.S.

His many friends knew Alf as a witty, personable man. Stephen Claridge describes Alf perfectly: "He was a library of knowledge, but a humble teacher to all. His thirst for scientific adventure led him to a search for the Holy Grail of experimentation. Each test that failed was one step closer to success."

Alf worked closely with a number of cold fusion researchers. He was an open-minded, inquisitive soul who enjoyed the rigors of cold fusion experimentation. One of his most recent collaborations was with Dr. Mitchell Swartz, who provided the following detailed account of some of Alf's most recent endeavors in cold fusion:

Alf successfully pushed the boundary of scientific knowledge forward by sterling scientific effort. His absence has left a hole in place of his steady contributions to our already dwindling field.

His colleagues in biomedicine and alternative energy recognized that Alf's quiet and unassuming manner was the veneer to his outstanding charm, grace and intelligence. Alf's work, contributions and creative ideas have been significant in both the LANR/CF field and in biomedicine.

One of Alf's contributions was his observation of radioactivity-count changes in his very novel system, composed of diatomaceous nanoparticles containing palladium, radium, and loaded with an isotope of hydrogen as gas, and an electrical current, during his experiments. As a result of the full procedure, there

followed a decrease in the radioactive count-rate over several hours. This decrease of a few percent was followed by a partial return of counter-detected activity over several hours to days. Alf meticulously worked in his laboratory to determine the etiology, especially the differential result of adding the hydrogen isotopes to discern if there was an CF/LANR-induced impact. Alf conducted his material science studies over years in collaboration with Charlie Entenmann, and then shared it with us, and Nie Luo, and George Miley at the University of Illinois.

Alf shared data that showed the presence of a possible optimal operating point, and to further develop the mathematical model which Alf and I were working on to help deconvolve this complex problem associated with his discovery. My examination of the data revealed diligent laboratory effort over thousands of hours of experiments, where Alf slowly but tirelessly collected data. As a result, Alf was invited and came to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to present his work on the "Investigation of Radioactive Material Inactivation" at the 2009 Colloquium on CF/LANR at MIT. It was the first time he shared his important experimental effort publicly.

Alf worked on the developing theory of what was actually going on in his samples. We developed an impulse response model based upon the different penetration ability of the ionizing radiation (X-rays) released by the daughter products of radium. Then, with the additional dedicated help of Nie Luo and George Miley, Alf's observations in his long-running series of experiments were confirmed at that location. Those studies have also begun to help determine the relative contributions of the observed radioactive decay rates from the chemical environment and the temperature-related distribution between radium daughter products. A paper "The Apparent Change of Radioactivity with Temperature in a Radium-226 Decay Chain" was in the final stages of being written when Alf died. Separation of the role of thermal loss from possible transmutation is now ongoing, having been led there only by Alf's efforts.

The impact of Alf's findings will have important implications to the study of radioactive dating in archeology, chemistry, and to cold fusion and solid state condensed matter nuclear reactions.

Alf's tireless effort, willingness to learn and explore, and general humanity will be greatly missed. Donations in memory of John Alfred Thompson can be made to the Bahamas Marine EcoCentre (formerly The Danguillecourt Project, www.tropicbirds.org), a non-profit dedicated to celebrating the Bahamian environment through education, research and art: Bahamas Marine EcoCentre, P.O. Box SS-6206, Nassau, Paradise Island, Bahamas.

