

In Memory of Dr. Brian O'Leary

Our new energy colleague and friend, Dr. Brian O'Leary, passed away at his retreat home in Vilcabamba, Ecuador on July 29, 2011 at the age of 71. He had been diagnosed with intestinal cancer shortly before his death.

Dr. O'Leary was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 27, 1940. He received a B.A. in physics from Williams College (1961), M.A. in astronomy from Georgetown University (1964) and Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of California at Berkeley (1967).

In 1967, Dr. O'Leary was selected as one of a small group of scientist-astronauts who would train for the Apollo Applications Program. However, he resigned from the program in April 1968, partly due to the cancellation of the Mars program in early 1968. His studies had focused on the Martian atmosphere.

Carl Sagan recruited O'Leary to teach at Cornell University in 1968. He later moved on to teach at other universities from 1971-1981. In the 1970s and 1980s, O'Leary was a regular contributor to major science publications like *Omni*, *New Scientist* and *Sky & Telescope*. He also published over one hundred peer-reviewed articles in the fields of planetary science, astronautics and science policy. Through the

1990s, O'Leary was a frequent television guest on shows such as "The Today Show" and "Larry King Live." His environmentalist views led to numerous opportunities: a special consultant to the U.S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, speech writer and senior advisor to presidential candidate Morris Udall, and policy consultant to presidential candidates George McGovern, Walter Mondale and Jesse Jackson.



In the late 1980s, Dr. O'Leary's visionary approach to science led him to become increasingly involved in new energy, new physics and global transformation. He wrote numerous popular new energy-related books, including *Miracle in the Void*, *The Energy Solution Revolution*, *The Second Coming of Science* and *Re-Inheriting the Earth*.

In 2003, he founded the New Energy Movement (www.newenergymovement.org). In 2010, *Infinite Energy* published O'Leary's environmental, new energy essay, "The Turquoise Revolution."

Dr. O'Leary worked diligently to educate and inspire a new generation of scientists. His adventurous spirit will be greatly missed.