

IN MEMORIAM

ASMA, Jr., Benjamin R., *Alpha Pi 2013*
MARSHALL, Virginia "Jenny" Louise,
Beta Eta 2003

OLIVER, Gene L., *Upsilon 1951*
UMBREIT, Gerry C., *Alpha Alpha 1943*

Benjamin Richard ASMA, Jr., *Alpha Pi 2013*, passed away April 2, 2014. He was a 2013 graduate of Lake Forest High School (LFHS) in Lake Forest, Ill., and was attending George Washington University where he was majoring in biomedical engineering and pre-medicine. At LFHS, he was an outstanding student with a passion for math, science, swimming and music, participating in jazz band, wind ensemble, pep band and orchestra.

George Donald COMBS, *Alpha Sigma 1957*, passed away June 9, 2014. He was the first person to earn a doctorate degree in engineering from the University of Arkansas. He taught at the University of Arkansas, worked for Exxon and helped found ENSCO, an environmental company that was the first company in the United States licensed to incinerate PCBs.

Gene L. OLIVER, *Upsilon 1951*, passed away March 13, 2014. Oliver was born in Rockford, Ill. He graduated from Beloit College with a bachelor's degree and graduated from Northwestern University with a doctorate degree in organic chemistry. He worked for Kodak in the research labs from 1954 until he retired in 1989. Oliver was an active member of the First Unitarian Church of Rochester, N.Y., for more than 40 years, was an active member in the local American Chemical Society and loved his time at the family cottage on Keuka Lake.



Jenny and Jim Marshall have authored over 45 articles in the *Rediscovery* series since it first appeared in Fall 2000 issue of *THE HEXAGON*.



Virginia "Jenny" Marshall, 1945–2014, working in the office that houses the "Rediscovery of the Elements" series.

Virginia "Jenny" Louise Marshall, *Beta Eta 2003*

Virginia (Jenny) Louise Marshall nee Rankin, 68 years, passed away on September 8, 2014, suffering from a heart attack of four days earlier. She was born in Wichita Falls on November 20, 1945. Her father James Leon Rankin was a multi-talented Texan who was a teacher, preacher, cow puncher, horse breaker, and oilman; and her artistic mother Lucile nee Barton a homemaker, restaurant manager, and a nurse. Virginia gained her secondary school education in various schools across Texas as her father traveled about; they eventually settled in Big Spring where she gained her high school education, graduating in 1963. From Texas Woman's University she gained a B.S. magna cum laude in 1980 and a M.Ed. with specialty in computer science in 1983. She was a Mortar Board member, Pi Sigma Alpha, 1980. She taught at Jefferson Davis School in Denton TX 1980–1985, and then Calhoun Junior High and Middle School in Denton 1986–2003, where she taught computer classes and photography.

She married Dr. James L. Marshall, *Beta Eta 1971*, Professor of Chemistry at the University of North Texas, in 1998, and the pair had been active ever since as a team in the international "Rediscovery of the Chemical Elements" project covering over twenty countries which has culminated in more than 60 publications, a 15-year span of American Chemical Society lecture tours, and a DVD used in classrooms across the country. Although not a chemist by training, Jenny was inducted into *Beta Eta* Chapter in 2003, due to her amazing work in the history of the chemical elements.

Jenny was also an accomplished artist and craftswoman, making beautiful jewelry, sewing lovely clothes, and knitting comfy outwear. Virginia was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma International and was initiated as a proud member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in 2013.

Virginia is survived by two sons, Robert Edgar Lumpkin, 45 years, San Diego CA, and James Everett Lumpkin, 40 years, Austin TX, who with Ashley Brook nee Bailey has three children Kinsley (8), Evangeline (Evie, 3), and Anderson (2); by nephews John David Harris (51) of Austin TX and Michael Raymond Harris (53); by a niece Mary Louis Taylor Buller (38) of Spring, TX; and by a sister Annie Margaret Warner (74) of Durham NC; and by her husband James (Jim) Marshall.

Full of brilliance and visionary goals, Jenny was an impressive harmony of beauty and professionalism. With a winning smile and a gracious heart, Virginia was loved by all, winning over the hearts of everyone she met. Jenny was an amazing person, always so cheerful and upbeat, and enthusiastic about everything she did. She had an adventurous spirit and was always willing to try new things. From learning how to co-pilot a private plane, to hiking the Grand Canyon, to traveling the world in the name of scientific research. Jenny met every challenge with her amazing spirit and dynamo attitude. She was quick with a joke and a laugh and made those around her feel special and loved. Her positive perspective, enthusiasm, and love of learning will always serve as a role model for others.

Memorials may be made to: Marshall Education Fund, P.O. Box 6 Denton, TX 76202..