John T. Hollin

I learned to appreciate the great wisdom and wit of John T. Hollin in the 1960s, when both of us were graduate students at Yale, before he transferred to Princeton. He taught all of his fellow graduate students a great deal about Quaternary problems and it was almost as if there was another faculty member in the student group, one with a great insight into how the ice-age world worked. Of particular note, he had just published a paper in the Journal of Glaciology considered by many, including me, to be transformational. In this paper he argued persuasively that variations in the area of the Antarctic ice sheet during ice-age cycles was determined by the changing level of the surrounding sea, in turn controlled substantively by the waxing and waning of northern ice sheets. This was an early and sophisticated approach to interhemispheric coupling of ice sheets. After he finished at Princeton, John joined us at Maine for a number of years. I got to appreciate his wonderful personality even further, as he spent a considerable amount of time as a guest in our home. I vividly remember the day when my dog ate John's favorite black Keds. While he was at Maine, John was an integral part of the CLIMAP project, as he and David Shilling meticulously reconstructed the area and volume of the world's mountain glaciers at the last glacial maximum. I remember John as a wonderful, warm, witty, respectful, and extremely intelligent scientist who will be greatly missed.

George Denton

Memory sent by George Denton as email message dated 11/19/16 to John Andrews for John Hollin Memorial Celebration at INSTAAR on 12/1/16.