



## Luther M. Foster

August 22, 1918 - February 21, 2019

Born in Cedar City, Utah, he obtained a Bachelor's of Science degree from the University of Hawaii, and a PhD in Physical Chemistry from Brown University.

At the start of World War II, he was at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory, working on emergency submarine measures when called onto the Manhattan Project at the University of Chicago and on to Los Alamos during the development of the atomic bomb. After the war he became Chief of the Physical Chemical Division at the Alcoa Research Laboratory and, later, a manager in semi-conductor chemistry at the T.J. Watson Research Center of IBM, from which he retired in 1981.

He was an author of 60 research studies in science journals and contributing author of seven science texts and standard referenda volumes.

At times in his career, he served on the NASA committee for evaluation of Skylab satellite experiments; was a moderator of the Westinghouse KDKA radio public service series "chemistry and You;" and was president of the Pittsburg Chemistry Club.

After retirement, he was engaged in fused glass art, exhibiting in galleries in the Northwest.

He was predeceased by his wife, Alice, and survived by daughters, Leslie Gifford of Monroe Township, New Jersey, and Linda Compton of Castle Rock, Colorado; and sons, Craig of Los Gatos, California and Kirk of West Lafayette, Indiana.

# Tribute Wall

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“ I'm sorry to hear that Mike passed away. I lived across the street from him in Corvallis from 2004 to 2013. He was a good neighbor; gave me gardening advice when I asked, even loaned me a couple of tools. I called him Mr. Foster for several years until he told me I should call him Mike. He took really good care of Alice until she passed on.

My favorite memory of him was the day I was talking to my soon-to-be-ex on the front porch. Apparently some angry undertones crossed over to where Mike was working in his yard. He paused, stood on the sidewalk, and glared at my ex like he was going to charge over to our place, all 95 pounds of him. He was 92 that year. What a good old guy.

*Sending my condolences to his family,*

*Donna C.*

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**Donna C** - July 27, 2019 at 05:20 PM