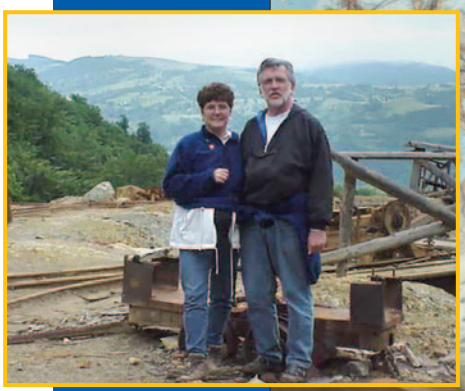






ABOVE: Jim and Jenny revel in the sense of isolation and connection to the past as they stand where tellurium was discovered in Romania in 1782. RIGHT: The Rediscovery authors are surrounded by their massive archive of photos and notes from their research and site visits. LOWER RIGHT: In Paris, Jim takes notes as Professor Jacques Rivet describes the contributions of Henri Moissan. During their research, Jim deftly navigated language barriers as well as challenging logistics and difficult terrain.

James L. **MARSHALL**, *Beta Eta 1971*, 84, a native son of Denton, TX, passed away on March 28, 2025. He earned his BS in chemistry at Indiana University in 1962 and his PhD in organic chemistry at Ohio State University in 1966. Jim joined the Department of Chemistry at North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas, UNT) in 1967. At UNT, he was involved in conformational analysis utilizing carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance coupling constants. During the early 1980s, he spent six years at Motorola, Inc., Ft. Worth, where he developed the laboratory facilities for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Program. In 1987, he returned to UNT where he conducted materials research. In the 1990s, he initiated research in chemical history.

Students loved Jim in class, and he was chosen as an Honor Professor by the UNT Student Association (1988–89), a "Top Prof" by Mortar Board in 1989, and an Outstanding Faculty Member by Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1995.

Dr. Marshall has served as chairman of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Section of the American Chemical Society, and during the period 1995–2003 was managing editor of *The Southwest Retort*, an ACS publication of the Southwest Region. He has served as an ACS national tour speaker for many years. He married his late wife, Virginia R. (Jenny) Marshall, in 1998, and together they developed an extensive work, "Rediscovery of the Elements." In 2010, they completed their work and prepared a DVD describing the project.

Their research received international acclaim, for example, being reviewed in *Nature* (**2005**, 436(25) 1082–1083), and their work also won the "Best Paper Award" in the *Bulletin for the History of Chemistry* in 2004. The Marshalls created the only collection of elements in the world that contains not only all the natural elements, but authentic samples of minerals from the original sites that they collected during the 16 years of their collaboration.

Service to the ACS and chemical research was recognized by his inclusion in the 2011 class of Fellows of the American Chemical Society. He retired from UNT in 2017 as an emeritus professor and continued his extensive writings on the history of the chemical elements. In August of 2024, he, along with his late wife Jenny, received the American Chemical Society Lambert Award for outstanding achievements in the history of chemistry for their work on the "Rediscovery of the Elements."

The project on the "Rediscovery of the Elements resulted in a massive archive produced by all the modalities of the modern historian. The original work was published as a series of articles in *The HEXAGON of Alpha Chi Sigma*. The first one was: "Rediscovery of the Elements: Tellurium and Faţa Băii (Fascebanya), Romania," James L. Marshall and Virginia R. Marshall, *The HEXAGON of Alpha Chi Sigma*, 91, No. 3, Fall, *43–45*, (2000). The last one was: "Rediscovery of the Elements. The Alchemical Journey. Part 3." J. L. Marshall and V. R. Marshall, *The HEXAGON of Alpha Chi Sigma*," 112(1), *10–13*, (2021). More than 50 articles in all were published.

As Jim often said, "And, when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it."— Paulo Coelho, *THE ALCHEMIST*; and the universe conspired to allow him and Jenny to achieve the Rediscovery dream.