

Introducing Emeritus Member Maclyn (Mac) Peat

After serving 1-½ years in the U.S. Army, part of which was at Michigan State College studying Electrical Engineering as Signal Corp training, I graduated in 1947 with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Northwestern University, thanks to the G. I. Bill of Rights.

A few years were spent with National Aluminate Corp., developing water treatment chemicals for commercial power plants. Then, an opportunity presented itself with Morton Salt Co., in the Chicago Q.A. Lab on Elston Ave., as Q.A. Manager, where I became acquainted with Spices and Spice oleoresins.

I was invited to join the Stange Co., a spice and seasoning provider to food manufacturers, meat processors, snack makers, etc., as Manager of their Q.C. lab, which I did, and about then, joined the I.F.T. in 1953.

Two highlights of the 20 years I spent at Stange were helping to develop the first Hamburger Helper seasonings, and, as V.P. of the Food Service Division, I got to know, and visit at his home in Kentucky, Col. Sanders of KFC. We did a ton of business with him and his company, making all of his seasonings and gravy mixes.

The next stop was as V.P. Production and Engineering for Food Materials. Corp., a flavor maker, for about 7 years, while Ex. Pres. of IFT, Art Schramm, was Pres. of Food Materials. Several years as V.P. Operations, at Ingredient Technology Corp., and another few at Saratoga Specialties, both spice and seasoning makers, ensued.

By this time, the burden of managing operations, sales, technical, and financial people made me decide to join Wixon Industries as a Special Accounts Mgr., responsible for only ME, and major accounts, such as Dean Foods, Johnsonville Sausage, Hillshire Farms, etc.

When I decided to retire, in 2000, I was asked to represent Wixon in the Chicago area, which I agreed to, and have done ever since. I also took on repping for Bedoukian Research, an aromatic chemical manufacturer in Connecticut. So, I'm still actively involved in the Food Industry, and looking forward to years of continuing association with the folks and companies in the Food and Flavor parts of our field of interest. I still thoroughly enjoy it!!