William Pinch (1940 - 2017)

Pittsford: William Wallace Pinch was born in Hornell, NY on August 15th, 1940 and passed away in Tucson, AZ on April 1st, 2017 at the age of 76. He was a world renowned mineralogist, loving husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by wife Jacquelyn, daughter Megan, son Michael (Karina), and granddaughter Elise.

Pinch was a larger than life collector of many of the earth's rarities including not only minerals but also gems, fossils, and shells, botanicals and rare books. He was a world renowned expert discovering new species and assisting with the description of heretofore unknown and rare minerals, a generous lecturer and teacher, a co-founder of the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, and a prolific contributor to mineralogical literature. He was admired and respected by many professors, many curators worldwide, scores of internationally renowned collectors, and loved by hundreds of children who have received tours and starter mineral collections from him. He was self-taught in his knowledge of minerals. His contributions to his field were so notable that a biannual medal was created in his honor - the "Pinch Medal" recognizing excellence by a non-professional for contributions to mineralogical science.

His funeral will be held in the Christ Our Light Chapel in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (2461 Lake Ave.) on MONDAY (April 24, 2017 - Please note the date) at 11:00 AM. Interment to follow. A Celebration of his life will be held in the Rochester Academy of Medicine (1441 East Ave.) at 2:00 PM. on April 24, 2017. In lieu of flowers, the family asks instead for donations to be made to the Friends of Saguaro National Park at www.friendsofsaguaro.org or David and Ilene Flaum Eye Institute. For directions or to leave an email message of condolence please visit: www.miller1889.com