

**This issue of Mineralogical Almanac is dedicated
in honor of Mrs. June Culp Zeitner**



Photo published by courtesy of Marie Huizing (Rocks & Minerals magazine)

February 7, 1916 – October 11, 2009

In the year of 2009 we lost one of our best friends – June Culp Zeitner, an outstanding American mineral and gem authority, speaker and writer. We mourn for her together with all those who knew and loved this wonderful woman – the 2005 recipient of the Carnegie Award and author of 10 books and about a thousand articles during her amazing career. June also founded and started the idea where each U.S. State named their State Mineral and Gem. She was crowned on the White House lawn, the «First Lady of Gems» and had the largest gem emerald found in the USA named after her «The Zeitner Emerald».

We were happy when once in the early 1990s she dropped in our booth at the Tucson Show and spent several minutes with us. Since then we met regularly, and she never missed coming to our booth, generously sharing with us her ideas and plans, and discussing our issues.

During those few minutes of our contact, June, this great person, managed to infuse us with a strong impulse of energy, inspiring us to start new projects, and filling us with fresh ideas. We always looked forward to those precious meetings and were happy that we had a chance to talk with this really outstanding person, who so harmonically combined a fascination of beauty and a force of a creative mind, great talent, and strong will, together with modesty and a love for people. June will stay in our hearts forever as our closest friend and teacher.