

ABOUT REX MORGAN

In the months leading up to the debut of *Shroud News* on this website, Stephen Jones, Ian Wilson and I had the great pleasure of corresponding with Rex Morgan in planning our approach to publishing his journal online. I have known Rex since the early 1980's when he visited Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California to view the comprehensive photographic exhibit compiled from the photographs taken by the STURP team photographers in 1978 (Vernon Miller, Mark Evans, Ernest Brooks and myself). Some years later, Rex would tour that same exhibit across Australia and Asia.

Of course, I also know Rex's work as an author, editor and scholar from his articles and contributions to the *British Society for the Turin Shroud (BSTS) Newsletter* and *Shroud Spectrum International*, along with his papers and presentations at numerous Shroud conferences over the years. Perhaps the most memorable moment of all was Rex's Keynote Speech delivered at the 2001 Dallas Shroud Conference on Saturday, October 27, 2001. This is what I wrote about it at the time:



Rex Morgan at the 2001 Dallas Conference ©2001 STERA, Inc.

“...demanding mention is the amazing keynote speech delivered by Rex Morgan, Shroud author, publisher and researcher at the closing banquet on Saturday evening. It was truly one of the most dramatic and inspiring speeches I have ever heard and I look forward to presenting a transcript of his brilliant address on this website sometime in the future. It received a well-earned standing ovation from the audience.”

Sadly, and for whatever reasons, we never did publish the text of that speech on this website. Ironically, it was ultimately published by Rex in *Shroud News* in the December 2001 Issue #118, the *final issue of the publication*, so in the end, it *will* be archived here on shroud.com in a future update. It will truly mark a fitting tribute to his great body of work on the Shroud. Too bad it took us fifteen years to get it online.

In our recent, four-way correspondence, Stephen, who had just received the entire collection of *Shroud News* issues from Ian and got to read them for the first time, wrote the following to Rex:

“I am too old (68) to use the modern word "awesome" but that is the word that occurred to me when I skipped through the *Shroud News* issues that Ian sent me! It seemed hard to believe that one man (you) managed to produce such a *prodigious* output, consistently for over 21 years.

“I have been a Shroudie for a little over 10 years now and I didn't even know what *Shroud News* looked like, let alone what was in it. But now, the current and future generations of Shroudies will be able to know not only what *Shroud News* looks like, but more importantly, what is *in it*.”

Rex graciously replied:

“I am grateful for your generous words about SN. One of my great regrets was that I stopped doing them as a result of considerable pressures on my life at the time. I had, and for that matter still have, enough material to have kept them going for years. It was all typed on a primitive Apple and set up with paste ups on paper for printing from - I couldn't understand how to do layout in a computer (and still can't)!

“My own Shroud odyssey, which began in 1978 at Turin is well chronicled in SN. I was driven, of course, by a force I could not stop or understand. My numerous Shroudie friends over the years, so many of them now dead, were a great inspiration to me as I travelled to so many international conferences, research expeditions and the expositions in Turin.

“Unfortunately circumstances prevented me from going to the last exposition (the only one I missed) and only a miracle will get me to Turin this year. I am now in my 80th year and a bit lame which restricts me. (Amusing to see the thin young chap on the cover of SN #7)! Funnily enough I had planned another three books on the Shroud. These are unlikely to see the light of day.

“Thanks again for your warm encouragement. I thank you and wish you well with your exceptional work for the Shroud.”

In June of 2006, Mark Guscini conducted an excellent, in-depth interview with Rex in what became the cover story for [Issue #63](#) of the *BSTS Newsletter*. Here is a direct link to the interview article: <http://www.shroud.com/pdfs/n63part2.pdf>

Russ Breault recently uploaded several videos of Rex on his Shroud YouTube page. You can watch a brief interview he conducted with Rex at the [1989 Paris International Shroud Conference](#) (3:16) or Rex's Opening Address at the 2008 Columbus, Ohio Shroud Conference titled [The Shroud: An Eternal Challenge](#). (52:00)

Rex has also provided us with his [Curriculum Vitae](#) which we are including here as well.

Without doubt, the Shroud world owes a debt of gratitude to Rex Morgan. His long term dedication and countless contributions have helped to educate and inform a truly international audience about the Shroud of Turin over several generations. Thank you Rex!

Barrie Schwartz - July 27, 2015