Paul Maloney  
(April 9, 1936 - August 27, 2018)

I just spoke with Mark Maloney, Paul's son and through much tears expressed that his beloved dad has passed away today. Paul took a nap and never woke up. He had gone to the doctor about a lump in his throat and was simply prescribed antacids. Our dear Paul, a prolific researcher, contributed so much clarity to this group over the past several years. He will be dearly missed. I had the pleasure of interviewing him in 1999 for The Shroud Report. Interview posted below. I had the supreme pleasure of meeting him in Paris in 1989 and were friends ever since. May he be at peace now in heaven.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNsC7Pui9d0

Russ Breault

Sad indeed. I have known him for only a short time and the few years of personal contact, I marveled over his dedication and high standards as a researcher which he continued to this day. May he Rest in Peace

A sincere condolence to all of his family including his family here at the Shroud Science Group.

Giorgio Bracaglia

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We were working on the Shroud tonight when we were informed of the sad passing of Paul Maloney. We all send our condolences to Paul’s family. Paul’s dedication to the Shroud is well known and respected.

May he rest in peace.

John and Rebecca Jackson and Keith Propp

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Very sorry to hear this news - I never met Paul, but we corresponded many times by e-mail during the past four to five years. He was always extremely kind and helpful, very willing to share - I always looked forward to reading the attachments in his e-mails or opening a (thick) manila envelope in the regular mail, because I knew they would be loaded with detail. Such a kind man - he will be very missed. My condolences and prayers to his family.

Kelly Kearse

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I am very sorry to read such a very sad news! He was a very kind and clever man; I had many contacts with him and he was very helpful for me in reference to some studies on the sticky tapes taken by R. Rogers, pollen, coins and Byzantine images of Jesus.

He took thousands of photos especially from pollen grains and other material contained in the dusts vacuumed from the TS and he wrote unpublished documents that should not be lost; with Barrie he had various projects to publish his important material not yet realized. All this important material must not be lost.

In sadness we can note that probably Jesus has rewarded his studies on the TS by giving Paul a passing without much suffering.

My sincere condolences and prayers to his family.

Giulio Fanti

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So sad to hear. Paul was a meticulous researcher with a great sense of humor (we shared a fondness of puns) but most importantly a genuinely nice and warm person.

Condolences to his family.

Joe Marino

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This is, indeed, sad news. Paul and I have been corresponding over the last year or so, and his last words with me (just the beginning of this week) was to ask how long his abstracts need to be for the 2019 conference. He was hoping to present at least 3 papers. He had two prepared and was in the process of working on a third.

Paul certainly leaves a void which will be very difficult to fill.

Gary Chiang

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Paul Maloney will be greatly missed. Condolences to his family on his passing and prayers for his meetings with all those other shroud investigators we have lost in the hereafter. Now he knows everything about the shroud.

Blessings to all,

Ray Schneider

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I was just looking over pictures of many past conferences. Paul was in most of them. He was always there, always helpful, always kind.

May he Rest in Peace.

Gus Accetta

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What a sad loss, indeed! I send my sincere condolences to Lois and family. Paul was an erudite teacher and consummate scholar…full of immeasurable knowledge and a witty sense of humor always ready to use at any opportunity... He was a kind and gentle soul. Paul will be greatly missed and never replaced. May he Rest in Eternal Peace!

Blessings,

Phil Dayvault

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I too would like to express my deepest condolences for the death of Paul Maloney. May he rest in peace!

Traudl Wally

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It was with mixed feelings that I learned of the passing of our beloved friend and colleague Paul Maloney. While I am very sad and sorry for his family and friends, I am happy that he is safely home with the Lord he loved, never again to suffer the pain, sorrow and sadness of this world. His passing brings to mind the great words of the late Christian evangelist Dwight L. Moody over a century ago:

"Some day you will read in the papers, 'D. L. Moody of East Northfield is dead.' Don't you believe a word of it!
At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now;
I shall have gone up higher, that is all,
out of this old clay tenement into a house that is immortal --
a body that death cannot touch, that sin cannot taint;
a body fashioned like unto His glorious body.
I was born of the flesh in 1837.
I was born of the Spirit in 1856.
That which is born of the flesh may die.
That which is born of the Spirit will live forever."

Dear Colleagues, August 27, 2018 may have been a sad day here on earth, but it was a GREAT day in heaven!

My sincerest compassion and condolences go out to his family and friends. He will be sorely missed.

Blessings, all,

John Donahue

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Yes Paul was a great Sindonologist, with a good and large approach, very scientific. He will miss heavily. I hope his materials and precious observations would be saved. I send my sincere condolences to his family ... Requiescat in pace! Now He knows the Truth!

Marcel Alonso

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The sad news of Paul’s death is terrible for me, as I knew him from so many years that I cannot remember how many they are. I met him many times and was in contact with him continuously. He wrote me an email two days ago and I was still searching the sources he asked me for a new research he started on the pollen grains. The only consolation for me is to know that he passed away without suffering. Now he is in the bright light of Jesus’ face, happy for ever. He will help us from heaven.

Emanuela Marinelli

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A sincere condolence to all of his family. We pray for him and his family, thanking for the precious contribution to the research given to us by dear Paul.

Giovanna De Liso

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Very sad news indeed. Condolences to his family.

Partial consolation, Paul was active until the last day, having spoken to Emanuela and others till few days ago: a life lived fully.

I met Paul at the Ohio conference in 2008, and I was fascinated by his way of putting ideas and proposals, gentle but firm, with a touch of irony. He helped to improve the accuracy of pollen data reported in our review paper A ray of light on the Shroud of Turin as we acknowledged at the end of the paper.

Among his many high-level contributions, I underline his accurate review paper "A contribution to the history of botanical research on the Shroud of Turin" published in the Proceedings of the Richmond conference in 1999.

Rest in peace Paul, now you know the answers to our questions.

Paolo Di Lazzaro

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Let me also express my sadness at Paul's passing. But remember too that perhaps God probably chooses someone to replace Paul in the multitask project of discovering how the Image on the Shroud came about.

There are many ways to see how God achieved the Image; Paul was one of the 'old timers', I consider myself (aged 69) as one of the older 'young' uns' chasing on his coat tails seeing what he saw with a new light.

May you rest in Peace Paul.

Tony Fleming

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In the next time I will say a holy Mass for Paul Maloney, a person that I knew very well,

Sincerely yours,

Fr. Heinrich Pfeiffer, S.J.
At the Richmond Conference of 1999, I offhandedly mentioned to Paul Maloney that I had been attempting, without success, to locate a medieval ecclesiastical book, written in Latin, which might establish the Shroud’s existence several decades prior to its earliest carbon-testing birthdate. About two weeks later, Paul called and advised that he had located this obscure work in a small monastic library, that he had made copies of its oversized pages, and that he was sending them to me for translation and analysis. Paul’s efforts permitted me to write and present a paper in Orvieto in 2000; however, he adamantly refused to accept any compensation or reimbursement for his work and stated that his satisfaction was derived from having been of assistance to a colleague.

Over the years, Paul authored many exceptionally-fine articles, one of which has never received the recognition which it truly merited. In 1989, Paul published The Stance of the Feet in Crucifixion in which he, having expanded upon the work of Dr. Joseph Gambescia, convincingly demonstrated that the bloodstains on the Shroud clearly evidence that two nails were driven into Jesus’ right foot, and that only one nail was inserted into his left foot, thereby allowing it to pivot in a manner perfectly harmonious with the blood flows presented on the relic. Paul’s findings provided substantial proof that the Shroud image, in presenting the detailed markings of a human body which had been subjected to the rigors of crucifixion, could not have been created artistically, as the 1988 carbon-dating tests clearly imply. Paul’s unexpected death has deprived the world of a truly wonderful person and has left the Shroud community bereft of a renowned and admired scholar whose thoughts and writings were consistently focused, brilliant, and intellectually-honest. As an extremely grateful recipient of his wisdom and friendship, I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife and children.

Jack Markwardt

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I was informed late of the sad passing of Paul Maloney after my return on September 2 from the ICORS 2018 Conf. in Korea. I did not know him personally but I was much impressed by the quality of his work and by his great notoriety on the Shroud. We all know that we will miss him greatly.

Please send my too late but sincere condolences to Paul’s family and friends.

Jean-Pierre Laude

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Paul Maloney was a very erudite scholar. He was a great source for resource and a wealth of knowledge in so many areas. He was a very humble man who was ready and willing to help anyone at any time. He will be truly missed by us who knew him over the years.

Mary Hines

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Paul’s funeral was held on September 1, 2018 and because of the short notice, it was difficult for those in the Shroud world to attend. Fortunately, Massimo Paris, who lives in Pennsylvania and is a member of the online Shroud Science Group, was able to attend the event and presented a stirring Eulogy on behalf of the group. Here is a transcript of his Eulogy:

EULOGY OF PAUL MALONEY DELIVERED AT HIS FUNERAL ON 9-1-2018

Good afternoon,
A few days ago I was given the news that I had been chosen to be granted the immense honor and privilege of paying homage to the memory of Paul Maloney on behalf of the Shroud Science Group, of which Paul was, and I am, a member, but I would say that, without any doubts, I can pay homage to Paul not only on behalf of the Shroud Science Group, but also on behalf of all the Shroud researchers of the world, since the reputation of Paul absolutely extended way beyond United States.

So, in order to begin, on behalf of all the Shroud researchers of the world, I would like to extend my condolences and theirs to Lois, Mark, Ed, Alex, Richard, and Maribeth.

Since I was born and raised in Rome, I would like to quote a saying which states that a whole life is not enough to know Rome completely; I could now paraphrase that statement affirming that, even though I were allotted the whole afternoon to talk about all the qualities, talents, achievements, and contributions of Paul, especially to the world of the Shroud, the time would not be enough.

I had spoken with him on Sunday, and I had no idea that, within twenty-four hours, we would receive the news that he had passed away.

Just to set a little bit the pace of this short speech, I would like to say that a gentleman and a scholar has departed this earthly life and will be sincerely and deeply missed. When I spoke on Tuesday morning with Emanuela Marinelli, my friend of twenty years and a world-renowned Shroud scholar, who wrote eighteen books on the subject, she told me: “A pillar of American Sindonology has left us.” I could not have agreed more wholeheartedly; I would actually say that not just a pillar, but a giant, and not only of American Sindonology, but of world Sindonology, has left us.

I received a large amount of comments that were posted on the website of the Shroud Science Group, and I would like to read them all, but I have decided to choose the one that, in my opinion, best summarizes and synthesizes the personality and the work of Paul; Phil Dayvault wrote: “Paul was an erudite teacher and a consummate scholar, full of immeasurable knowledge and of a witty sense of humor. He was a kind and gentle soul.”

Probably this description says it all, but I decided to talk about Paul also using references taken from the New Testament, and I would like to start by saying that, for Paul, the Shroud of Turin was a vocation.

The word “vocation” comes from the Latin vocare, which means “to call”, and Christ called Paul to evangelize about His Passion, Death, and Resurrection through the Shroud. But just to receive a call is not enough, because Jesus said “Many are called, but few are chosen” (Mt 22:14); Paul
answered wholeheartedly to the call of Christ, and our Redeemer could not have made a better choice in calling Paul. At the same time the Lord said: “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit” (Jn 15:16). Just to give you an idea of the monumental abundance of the fruit that Paul produced, if you go to the website www.shroud.com, which was created by Barrie Schwortz in 1996, and you search for works or articles under the name of Paul Maloney, there are more than 160 items that would come up. In the Gospel it is also said that “the tree is known by its fruit” (Mt 12:33), and no fruit could have been better than Paul.

I am thankful to Russ Breault, another member of the Shroud Science Group, for having informed me about some poignant events of Paul’s life, and I chose a couple that occurred when I was still in Italy and did not know Paul yet.

In 1983 Paul co-founded ASSIST (Association of Scientists and Scholars International for the Shroud of Turin), of which he was the General Projects Director. ASSIST was instrumental in acquiring the sticky tapes with which Max Frei, a Swiss criminologist, had removed dust and pollens from the Shroud in 1978.

Paul deeply studied those sticky tapes and provided fundamental scientific contributions. An aspect, about which everybody agreed, is that Paul was a very meticulous, very detail oriented, and very thorough researcher of truth, but, at the same time, the truth is Jesus, since He said of himself: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” (Jn 14:6). I could then say that, every time Paul was searching for truth, he was also searching for Christ.

Another event that shows his meticulousness and detail-oriented personality occurred on July 23, 1988, at the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. On that day there was a confrontation between Paul and Walter Mc Crone. The latter was a scientist who did not believe in the authenticity of the Shroud. Mc Crone claimed that on the sticky tapes with which Max Frei had removed materials from the Shroud, and that had been acquired by ASSIST, he could not find more than two or three pollen grains per square centimeter. Paul, using a much more powerful microscope, showed Mc Crone that there were about three hundred pollen grains just on one sticky tape. This was made visible to all the Shroud scholars in the room through a camera that was connected with the microscope. Unfortunately, Mc Crone, in spite of the evidence, did not change his mind.

August Accetta said that, looking at the pictures of all the Shroud conferences, Paul would always be there; he attended all the conferences through the one held in St. Louis, Missouri, where I had the pleasure of meeting him personally in 2014.

Paolo Di Lazzaro, a physicist from Italy, commented that Paul worked until the last moment, a life well spent.

A final very good opportunity offered to me in order to describe Paul, is that by Giorgio Bracaglia, of the Holy Shroud Guild, who wanted to surprise Paul with an excerpt from the book that he (Giorgio) wrote, by the title “Uncovering the Paradox Within the Archives of the Holy Shroud Guild”, soon to be published. Giorgio wanted to show Paul how the latter was important for the Holy Shroud Guild, but unluckily his sudden death did not make the surprise possible. Giorgio asked me to tell the family privately, but I requested his permission to divulge in the eulogy, the following passage from his book: “One of the most notable American members for the Association of Scientists and Scholars International for the Shroud of Turin (ASSIST) was an affable
gentleman by the name of Paul Maloney. Paul was a dedicated scientist with a degree in archaeology. He was the pivotal contact for the organization. His demeanor and cordial style gave hope to the Holy Shroud Guild that ASSIST could help in building ties with the European counterpart.”

I would like to say that, although I did not ask Paul this question, I am quite confident that if he had been requested to describe what he wanted to be his legacy, or how he wanted to be remembered, he would choose to cite St. Paul: “I have competed well, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me” (2 Tim 4:7-8).

One of the peculiarities of the Shroud is that the bodily image on it is a mirror image of the body of Christ; what on the Shroud looks like the right-hand side of the corporeal figure was imprinted by the left side of Jesus’ body, and vice-versa. In the first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul writes: “At present we see indistinctly, like in a mirror, but then face to face” (1 Cor 13:12). So, somehow Paul looked at the image of Christ on the Shroud indistinctly, like in a mirror, but now he is looking at Him face to face.

At this point I would like to conclude in the same way in which I conclude my Shroud power point presentations. When I show the last slide with the black and white negative of the face of Jesus on the Shroud, I mention to the members of the audience that each one of them will have to show up, one day or another, in front of that being and of that countenance; I also wish all the attendees, including myself, what, in this case, I have the most absolute certainty happened to Paul. To hear uttered from the mouth of our Lord the statement: “Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your master” (Mt 25: 21:23).