

Neal Cline a long time member of the staff of IGPP passed away on February 18, 2017. Neal worked the institute from 1962 until he retired in 2016. He was on recall from 1999 through 2016. Neal served as the manager of data processing and computing for space science. He was an innovative leader in information technology. In the 1960's he was one of the first to recognize the importance of data management for data being acquired by NASA satellites and he helped UCLA play a leadership role in this critical area. He developed the UCLA Flat File system, a way of applying the then new field of relational database technology to satellite data. Neal's system is still in use today. Particles and fields data are organized by time. Unfortunately every mission organized time in a different way. He came up with a very simple method of dealing with the problem. He organized time as the number of milliseconds from an epoch. This enabled easy translation between different systems. Neal's time-system, still in use today, is called Cline Time. UCLA honored Neal for his contributions to the Physical Sciences computer network, a system that benefited researchers in multiple departments. When accepting the award, he noted that every other manager being honored had been singled out for saving UCLA money but he was being honored for spending money. It was money well spent.

Neal loved music both classical and jazz. He was a regular attendee at concerts. In recent years he became interested in modern classical music.

Neal was an avid body surfer and loved volley ball. After he retired from UCLA, he organized and coached volley ball teams.

There will be a celebration of Neal's life on Saturday, March 4 at 1 pm at the Cline family home, 2102 E Balboa Blvd, Newport Beach. The family welcomes those who wish to speak or listen but asks for an RSVP to his brother, [davidjcline7@gmail.com](mailto:davidjcline7@gmail.com), so that the caterer will have some idea of the attendance. For further questions or comments, please contact David Cline.