

## **Obituary: Ann C. Fort**

Ann Fort, who retired from BNL's Department of Nuclear Energy on May 31, 1996, passed away on March 3, 2016. She was 82 years old.

The following obituary was posted on the website of the Martin Funeral Home and Crematory in Stewart, Florida:

**Ann C. Fort**  
**March 3, 1934 - March 3, 2016**

### ***Comments:***

Ann C. Fort, 82, Indiantown, FL, passed away at home under the tender loving care of Treasure Coast Hospice with her children by her side on Thursday, March 3, 2016.

She leaves behind her sons Stephen Nichols of Ft. Myers, FL, Jeffrey Fort (Teresa) of Ocoee, FL, Brian Fort of Long Island, FL; brother Michael Massa of Indiantown, FL and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life memorial service will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at the Stuart Chapel of Martin Funeral Home and Crematory, 961 S. Kanner Highway, Stuart, FL 34994,

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in loving memory of Ann to Treasure Coast Hospice, 1201 SE Indian Street, Stuart, FL 34997.

Susan Monteleone forwarded the obituary, which included her own remembrance of Ann Fort:

*Ann, my dear friend and co-worker. Hard to share just "a memory" because I have dozens. Our work at Brookhaven Lab was important, challenging and never-ending, and we unwound afterward with softball, volleyball, picnics, or 'drinks at the Center.' Like any 'family' attending weddings, bridal and baby showers, and watching each others' children grow, we had our share of squabbles, but mostly we had mutual respect and love. Ann and I had the ability to make each other laugh simply by saying the last few words of an old joke's punch line (...sometimes ze bull wins), and she always entertained us with pieces of silly, little-known old timey songs. Ann's legacy is as a loving wife and sister, a devoted mother, and a loyal and cherished friend. Her fearless and creative energy, her humor, her sense of self, will be very sorely missed.*

Susan also wrote: "Ann Fort retired from BNL and will be remembered by many of her former co-workers and friends. She was the force behind the group that, for many years, entertained all of BNL on Halloween with thematic costume troupes, e.g., Uncle Fester (Addams Family), Tin Man (Wizard of Oz), etc."

Some of those imaginative efforts were photographed and covered in the Brookhaven Bulletin. Here are three of them:

## ***Sorry, Gotham! We've Got Batman!***



**Holy Halloween, Batman! Remember this scene from last year's "haunting" of BNL? That was the ninth year of the tableau tradition that was begun in 1987 by Ann Fort, Jeanne Madaia and Kathleen Nasta, and has expanded to include more and more of their Department of Advanced Technology (DAT) colleagues. Last year, Batman paused in his perennial pursuit of pranksters and petty thieves to pose for this photo with friends and foes: Surrounding Batman (Mary Anne Corwin) and the Batmobile are: (from left) Robin (Nasta), Catwoman (Patricia Van Gulp), the Joker (Fort), King Tut (Sonja Santos), the Penguin (Donna Storan), the Riddler (Madaia) and Batgirl (Pamela Ciufo). Even though Fort has retired, she's still planning to come to BNL next Thursday, Halloween, to join the others in DAT who will again be taking vacation time to spread fear and cheer around the Lab as . . . ? Holy surprise, Batman! You'll just have to wait to find out!**



# Haunted by Halloween Memories

Last Halloween, when Alice (Patricia Van Gorp) followed the White Rabbit (Jeanne Madaia) down the rabbit hole, she had her Adventures at BNL, instead of in Wonderland. Nonetheless, she met up with many of her friends from Lewis Carroll's book, including: (from left) the Mad Hatter (Mary Anne Corwin), the Cheshire Cat (Kathleen Nasta), and the King (Donna Storan) and Queen (Ann Fort) of Hearts. Together, they toured the Lab site, bringing wonder to all BNLers who had the opportunity to enjoy this *tableau vivant* tradition once again. In 1987, Fort, Madaia and Nasta began taking vacation time to don costumes and spread fear and cheer around the Lab on Halloween. They've been doing it every year since, drawing in colleagues from the Department of Advanced Technology as needed to complete their themes. We don't know what the scenario will be for the group's 11th year, but we do know that it will be so much fun that Fort and another former tableau artiste, Sonja Santos, are coming out of retirement to participate again. So be on the lookout for them today, and have a Happy Halloween!



Roger Stoutenburg



# ***Memorable Halloween Haunts***



**Last Halloween, when it was time for a little something to happen around the offices at BNL corner, Winnie-the-Pooh (Ann Fort) with (front, from left) Piglet (Kathleen Nasta), Tigger (Patty Van Gurp), Rabbit (Janice DePass), and Eeyore (Linda Thompson), along with (center, middle row) Christopher Robin (Sonja Santos), Kanga (Mary Anne Corwin) and (back) Owl (Barbara Roland) took time out to trick viewers into an A.A. Milne treat. For the eleventh year running, they took vacation time or came back from retirement to don costumes and spread the Halloween spirit around the Lab. Back in 1987, Fort, Jeanne Madaia, and Nasta first started this annual tradition by gyrating through the Lab as the never-to-be-forgotten California Raisins, and, with the help of many others, they have provided BNLers with hauntingly happy memories of Halloweens past ever since.**

