Dear Fellow Lamoner:

Let me coin a phrase - Once a Lamoner, Always a Lamoner - “to coin a phrase” was an expression Chuck Drake often used when he borrowed someone else’s famous words. And Chuck coined many worthwhile phrases of his own while I knew him - a very able, articulate and generous guy.

Lamont introduced us to so many notable people and taught us many of life’s lessons as well as career skills. It was an extraordinary experience. I am grateful for all of it.

If I were still there (went to U of Texas in 1972), I might now be the most senior person at Lamont. You may think that Wally Broecker has been at Lamont for a long time – Well, Wally sat next to me in a physics class in 1952, his first year and my second year at Lamont. It is a pleasure knowing him and everyone else I met there.

Having now attended three Lamont Alumni functions in a row (Open House and Reunion last October 4, December 11 reception in San Francisco, Alumni Reunion and Dan Fornari lecture this April 18), I hope to attend many more in the future. Each time I return to Palisades I marvel at the beauty of the campus, and at the strength and vigor of old and new research programs. Something new and impressive is always there to see. Lamont remains in the vanguard of earth science, and it is a national treasure for showing what it will take to keep the planet liveable. A day at Lamont gives me hope in the future.

God bless Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, its Director, everyone who works there, and everyone who treasures their relationship to this thriving institution. Doing what we can to keep Lamont healthy must be an important goal for all of us.

P.S.: The world earthquake map on this letterhead was my career best seller.