

50- Year Symposium and Celebration Honoring Professor Donald R. Paul

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Austin, TX**

A B S T R A C T

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Don Paul: Fifty Years at Texas; more than fifty years my friend

Returning from Viet Nam in December 1966, I began my 50-year career at Don's *alma mater* --- NC State. In the early spring of 1967 I met Don professionally, and we have been friends and colleagues ever since. I will offer a wide variety of personal and technical vignettes of our friendship and collegueship during the past half century. The stories will range from the designation of a pressure-independent solvent activity to the classic and embellished recipe for *bucatini all'amatriciana*.

These stories trace my path and his, and the frequent intersection between them, during the past half century. These stories will demonstrate that Don is not like the rest of us. He is a whole lot better. I will discuss one of Don's early papers that, I believe, is a model of intellectual rigor and persistence and also his launching pad into the leadership of the community of polymer scientists.