IN MEMORIAM

ANNE ELIZABETH HOWDEN (THOMPSON)

19 July 1927 – 9 September 2016

Longtime and Honorary Member of The Coleopterists Society Anne Howden (Figs. 1–2) passed away in the early hours of 9 September 2016 at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Anne was born in Baltimore, Maryland to a family of two sisters and two brothers. She was married to acclaimed scarab beetle systematist Henry F. Howden (1925–2014), and they had three daughters: Patience, Barbara, and Lucile. The Howdens lived in Ottawa, Ontario for most of their lives, where Anne engaged in insect taxonomy through her Research Associate affiliations with Carleton University and the Canadian Museum of Nature.

Anne received a Masters degree in Entomology from the University of North Carolina in Entomology in 1950, studying the succession of insects on carrion. She later switched her focus to the taxonomy and natural history of weevils, specifically the tribe Tanymecini for which she was a world authority. With Henry, she travelled the world in their search for new and interesting species of beetles, she collecting weevils and he scarabs. These field expeditions were recorded for posterity in the book Collecting Memories, a Sixty Year Chronicle of a Pair of Beetle Collectors, Henry and Anne Howden, which was published in 2014. The Henry and Anne Howden collection of beetles of over 450,000 specimens was donated to the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, along with a generous endowment fund for entomological research.

Anne was a member of the Entomological Society of Canada, the Entomological Society of America, and The Coleopterists Society. Of special importance, she served as the President of The Coleopterists Society (1983) and is recognized as one of a selected few Honorary Members of the same society. She was a meticulous scientist well known among her close colleagues for her fine attention to detail in her species descriptions and her studies of morphology. Her home was always open to the many entomologist visitors who came to study the Ottawa collections.

During her career, she published 35 scientific articles dealing mainly with the taxonomy of weevils. These papers range from new species descriptions to comprehensive monographs on the genera Pandeleitus and Hadromeropsis, particularly in South America. In her scientific papers, Anne described 96 new species of weevils.

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ANNE T. HOWDEN COMPLETE BIBLIOGRAPHY