

***SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING 2020  
MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS***



RICHARD S. FULLER (by Ian Brown)

WHEREAS, Richard S. Fuller, Southeastern Archaeologist, died on March 5, 2020 at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Rick was born on Dog River in Mobile, and always had a great love for the history and prehistory of his native land; and

WHEREAS, Rick was trained in archaeology at the University of South Alabama (U.S.A.) under the mentorship of the late Noel Read Stowe; and

WHEREAS, through his work at the U.S.A. Center for Archaeological Studies, both early on in his career at also at the end, Rick was a prime contributor to understanding the culture history of Southwest Alabama; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s Rick participated in numerous projects of the Peabody Museum's Lower Mississippi Survey in Louisiana and Mississippi, contributing mightily to projects run by Ian Brown, Jeff Brain, Stephen Williams and T. R. Kidder; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the Morgan Site excavations on Pecan Island in Louisiana, he is one of very few archaeologists who could boast of having fully excavated a large Coles Creek period mound; and

WHEREAS, Rick's interest and expertise in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and especially of the famous Bottle Creek Site on Mound Island secured him a position with the Gulf Coast Survey at the Alabama Museum of Natural History, where he was employed throughout the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, Rick's specialty was pottery analysis with much of his writings having been devoted to material culture; and

WHEREAS, his detailed understanding of the intricacies of pottery typology has enriched our understanding of past lifeways along the Gulf Coast and in neighboring regions; and

WHEREAS, Rick had a great love for the waterways and made major contributions to our understanding of Native American dugouts when he was employed at Coastal Environments Inc. in the late 1980s; and

WHEREAS, Rick will perhaps most be remembered by fellow archaeologists for his great wisdom and extraordinary wit; and

WHEREAS, although there was a testiness about him at times, which affected the course of his career, no one ever doubted that Rick would always generously provide that wisdom, or even give an arm or a leg for anyone who asked; and

WHEREAS, this is the testimony of more than 50 archaeologists in the book written in his memory shortly after his death—*Richard S. Fuller, Southeastern Archaeologist: Warts and All*; and

WHEREAS, Rick devoted well over 40 years to contributing to the archaeology of the Southeast U.S.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference offers our heartfelt condolences to Gail Fuller, Rick's surviving sister, and to all of his extended family for the great loss that we all feel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we consider Rick to have been a true force of nature, a lover of the swamps, the marshes, and the beaches, and of all those people who inhabited and still inhabit these regions. And to nature he has now returned.