



Dr. Sam'l P. Arnold

June 28th, 1926 – June 8th, 2006

Sam'l Paul Arnold was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on June 28th, 1926. He first developed his love of food from his father who traveled the world on business and brought back unusual spices and foods from Mexico, Europe, Russia and Japan. They would try to recreate the interesting foods he had from around the world. Sam'l's love of the West came from hearing fascinating stories of his great uncle Webster Fox who was a famous ophthalmologist. Sam went to Phillips Andover Academy and then onto Yale University, graduating in 1947. His passions were English, journalism, and music.

In February 1963, the Arnold family opened the restaurant in the lower sections of The Fort to help pay for the costs of the construction. Also, in 1963, Sam'l adopted a Canadian black bear named Sissy who lived at The Fort for 19 years. He LOVED Sissy and surely the bear is his spiritual totem. He loved the smell of her fur, her affectionate wild instincts and untamed nature. He identified with her spirit through great love and affection.

Sam'l also loved his alma mater, Yale University, and once told Western History professor Howard Lamar, that he really wanted to be a teacher and wished he had received his PhD to teach at Yale. Howard told Sam'l that through The Fort he is teaching the public every day the living history of the West and has had much more impact on education than teaching in a classroom. In 2004, Johnson Wales awarded him an honorary PhD and he was so pleased! Sam'l was also given the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Association of Culinary Professionals in 2005, the industry's highest award.

Sam'l's other "family" are the employees at The Fort. He always was loved and respected by many and was very involved in their personal life. He admired each of our employee's talents. He loved all of them and he thanks each and every one for helping the Arnold's through good times and bad. We are all responsible for carrying on my dad's legacy at The Fort! You are all a part of the family.

These are huge moccasins to fill! Through you, The Fort family, Sam'l will live on. He'll be watching us with his "eagle eye" and if he approves, we'll hear a hearty "Waugh!"

~Excerpts from daughter Holly Arnold Kinney's eulogy, given at Johnson & Wales University's memorial service June 28, 2006.