

[Dr. Robert Henry "Pete" Bragg Jr.](#)

**Professor Emeritus and Former Chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering
University of California, Berkeley**

I liked Pete a lot...we never talked physics but just general "BS" stuff and there was plenty of that to go around. The last time I saw him was when he dropped by my old university in New Orleans...I think that was some time in the late 90's. Before that...as I recall..he participated in an EBASI conference held in Accra, Ghana...along with some spouses [my wife, Lynette Johnson, and a few others were there] on the plane going there was a lot "tomfoolery" and just plain fun...that conference stands out a little in my memory because there was a "scouting" trip made to Accra prior to the conference in order to check out and anticipate and solve any problems we might encounter at the conference...[Joe Johnson](#) and Lynette led that scouting trip and "boy-o-boy" did we discover problems/hassles...the need for "Dash" (little bribe) to get something/almost anything done...the need to find some other place to stay other than in the state hotel!!...the need for some conference participants and spouses upon arrival to get used to children soldiers running around with AK-47s...the need to find a way to disengage one's mind from the paradox of abject poverty coexisting with friendliness and goodwill of people...

I also recall being at [Professor Harry Morrison's](#) [Department of Physics at the University of California, Berkeley and a fantastic theoretical physicist and innate philosopher!!...I was blown away also because he was interested in some of the kind of physics that I was pursuing...I would have liked to have become a mentoree of Harry] home (near Berkeley) along with Pete and others ...Pete commented on his own home which had a flat roof, was not lavish but yet appraised at some ridiculous price...I had asked him about him about selling it and he said something like "why do that because i couldn't buy another one in the same neighborhood"...Pete had a great sense of humor!! I learned a lot about a lot of "things" from Robert "Pete" Bragg.

Milt Slaughter