



Larry Gene Pleimann

September 29, 1934 - March 6, 2020

Larry Gene Pleimann, 85, of Fayetteville left this life behind on March 6, 2020. He was born September 29, 1934 in Seminole, OK to the late Elmer and Blanche Pleimann. His family moved to Louisiana in 1945 and he graduated from Lake Charles High School as valedictorian in 1952.

He attended Louisiana State University from which he graduated with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1956 and a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1957. While at LSU, he participated in a 2 month work camp in Cuba which solidified his commitment to helping in 3rd World countries. He went on to serve sequentially as the local, state and national chairman of the Methodist Student Movement.

From 1958 to 1961 he completed the Bachelor of Divinity program at Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas. It was there he met and married Sally Jay Hughes, to whom he was married for 34 years. In 1962, they sailed to France and spent a year studying the French language at the Universite' de Grenoble. From there, they would go on to serve the Methodist Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1963-1966. It was there he decided to pursue graduate work in structural engineering with the intent to return to Africa to teach.

Larry returned to LSU and completed a Masters degree in Engineering Mechanics in 1968. He then would go on to earn his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1973. Upon discovering that his dream of returning to Africa to teach would not become a reality, he accepted a position at Texas A&I in Kingsville, TX in 1971. In 1975, he accepted a position in the Civil Engineering department at the University of Arkansas. He would go on to a 37 year career there, where he would teach a total of 15 different courses, 6 of them electives of his own origination.

He is survived by his younger sister, Jacquetta Cochran of Lake Charles, Louisiana. In Fayetteville, he is survived by his sons Jason Pleimann, MD and Chris Pleimann; grandsons Miller, Mason and Judd Pleimann; daughter-in-law Leigh Ann Pleimann and step

grandsons Jacob, Garrett and Luke Womack.

As his many friends will attest, Larry was a brilliant, exceptionally well-read, and well-rounded man. He loved teaching and committed his professional life to providing an exceptional learning experience for his students. He loved his family and was very proud of his sons' and grandsons' achievements.

Memorial service will be held at a later date.

Comments



“ Larry was a member of adult Sunday school classes that I led at St Paul's Episcopal Church a number of years ago. He always had a lot of ideas, sometimes challenging, to bring to the class discussion. Condolences to the family from my husband and me.

Deborah Sabo

Deborah Sabo - March 26 at 10:33 AM



“ To all the Pleimann family my heartfelt condolences. Larry was a good friend for many years, first through church and then through the university. Many many years ago he made a great bookcase for me and it is a daily reminder of him and his big heart.

Nancy Sloan

Nancy Sloan - March 16 at 08:58 PM



“ Jason & Chris,
I knew you when you were children. Gene Tweraser, your mother and I used to spend hours in your living room planning good works through COPE (Coalition on Parent Education), for parents wanting to raise their children with love and guidance. You were often times there, which grounded us in the work we were doing.

Your dad, of course, was generally working, but occasionally we crossed paths with him, getting support of our efforts. It was easy to see that family, especially you boys, was especially important to him.

Losing a parent always tests our faith. We know he/she passes from this life to eternal life. But we are also going to miss mom or dad like crazy. Keep the stories going for yourselves and for your children.

In Friendship,
Judi Singleton

Judi Singleton - March 16 at 12:53 PM



“ Larry was a mentor and friend from the time I was hired into my first academic program at Arkansas in 1988 until I departed in 2003. In the years after leaving Fayetteville, I would think about Larry often. To my great surprise and joy, one day I discovered that I had purchased one of his old textbooks off eBay when I open the

book to find Larry's name and office number inside. I hope that Larry's love for teaching continues to pass through me and on to the next generation of civil engineers.

John Schemmel, PhD, PE
Civil Engineering Program Coordinator
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

John Schemmel - March 15 at 11:41 AM



“ I worked with him as a structural engineering Professor from 1986. We discussed many issues from teaching philosophy to Indian philosophy. He was instrumental for me to develop a unique course on structural loading which I have been teaching more than 25 years. When we offered the course it may be the first of its kind in the USA. I will miss him.

R. Panneer Selvam, Professor of Civil Engineering, UARK

R. Panneer Selvam - March 15 at 11:11 AM



“ I was deeply saddened by the news of Larry's death. His professional and personal accomplishments are incredible. I remember his vibrant personality and his love for Jason and Chris. My heart felt condolences to all his family. Please know you are in my prayers today. Mimi Mathis

mimi mathis - March 15 at 08:39 AM



“ Larry was such a brilliant and funny neighbor. Reading all of his accomplishments in one place makes me wish I had asked more questions. I deeply regret taking his presence for granted. Howard and I do send our condolences to his family and pray God may comfort each of them as only He can. Katherine Brill

Katherine Brill - March 14 at 01:23 PM



“ Dr. Pliemann, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss of your father. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Dave Montgomery - March 15 at 10:53 AM



“ So very sorry for your loss seems like not enough. I know what it is like to lose your father. Hugs from afar.

D'Gaye Findlay - March 13 at 07:45 PM



“ Sincerest Sorrow - Multicolor Bright was purchased for the family of Larry Gene Pleimann.



March 13 at 06:51 PM