



Ron Rainger

June 28, 1949 - May 25, 2016

Ronald Rainger, a professor of American History of Science and Technology at Texas Tech University, passed away May 25, 2016 as a result of early-onset Alzheimer's. He was a professor at Texas Tech in the History Department between 1983-2007. He was the recipient of many honors and awards, such as the Hemphill Wells New Professor Excellence in Teaching Award in 1986 and the Outstanding Graduate Teacher of the History Department in 1995. In 2001 he received the President's Excellence in Teaching Award. His specialty field was the History of Biology which led him to research evolution theory, paleontology, museumology, oceanography, nuclear science, and the teaching of evolution in Texas.

He was born in Salt Lake City, Utah in 1949 as the son of Dan and Sylvia Rainger. After completing under-graduate work at Willamette University, he went on to the University of Utah and Indiana University, where he received his PhD in 1982. Prior to his employment at Texas Tech University, he was a teacher at Santa Fe Preparatory School in Santa Fe, New Mexico, a visiting professor at University of Arizona, and a military historian at Brooke Air Force Base in San Antonio. In 2004 – 2005, he was a program officer with the National Science Foundation. He authored in 1991 *An Agenda for Antiquity, Henry Fairfield Osborn at the American Museum of Natural History, 1890-1935*. He was the author of many articles, book reviews, and presentations in the field of History of Science and Technology, and was an editor for two books on the development of American biology. The volumes created a new

sub-discipline in the History of Science, the history of American biology.

In 1983, he married Judy Greaves of Portales, New Mexico. They had 6 dogs in their 33 years of marriage- Farfel, Cleo, Bosco, Haywood, Max and Maizie. He is survived by his wife and his brother, Bill, of Salt Lake City, nieces Sara Breda of San Antonio, TX, Merril Tydings of Flagstaff, AZ, Justine Tydings of Laramie, WY, and one nephew Ben McDaniel of Clovis, NM; also Tish and Mike McDaniel of Clovis, NM, and Rebecca Helianthus of Albuquerque, NM and cousin, Fran Lauer.

His survivors send gratitude and love to his many caregivers at Raider Ranch Memory Care, especially Debra Pugh , Josie Amarillos and Amy Rejino..

Memorials in honor of Ron's life may be directed to the charity of one's choice or the Humane Society of Lubbock, Texas, P.O. Box 65645, Lubbock, TX 79424

Friends and colleagues are invited to a celebration of Ron's life Friday, July 1st at 2:00-3:00 at Sanders Funeral Home in Lubbock, Texas, 1420 Main Street.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 1. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Funeral Home
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 763-6433
director@sandersfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sandersfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ron Rainger.*



June 30, 2016 at 07:46 PM



“ *Dear Judy, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Ron is at peace now, it has been a struggle for him these past many years. I think of you so often and miss you. My hugs will be with you as you walk this step in the journey of life. Ron loved you as you loved him. Love you bunches, Nancy Hatfield*

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