



## Elmo "Adrian" Law

January 22, 1940 - August 28, 2020

Elmo "Adrian" Law passed away at home in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 28, 2020. He gifted his body to the University of Kansas Medical School.

Adrian was born on January 22, 1940, in Clyde, Kansas; he moved to Kansas City as a child and lived there the rest of his life. Adrian was a life-long learner and educator. He earned three degrees from the University of Missouri at Kansas City in biology and education and taught courses on biology and botany there for more than 35 years. He also taught at Johnson County Community College and in UMKC's continuing education program, and he served as a science outreach educator in Kansas City public schools. He was an honored veteran of the United States National Guard (1957-1965).

Adrian, always a scientist, was incredibly curious about the world; as a world traveller one of his favorite activities was to identify plants and insects while hiking the fields and woods of three continents. He was a philanthropist and politico. He was an avid outdoorsman and birder and always a passionate environmentalist. Adrian was a voracious reader, movie buff, and gardener, as well as an amateur drummer and painter. Adrian was an active member of Shawnee Mission Unitarian Unitarian Church.

Adrian married Patricia Joyce Hobson Law, originally of Salina, Kansas, in 1964; they lived most of their 47 years of married life in Overland Park, Kansas. They had one son, Randall David, in 1969, who followed his father into academia (as an historian). They enjoyed a supremely loving marriage, and Adrian served as Patricia's dedicated and compassionate caregiver during the lengthy illnesses that claimed her life in 2011.

Adrian was gifted with an extraordinary second love with Juli Ann Boehm with whom he lived for the last years of his life. He embraced her children and family and loved them deeply. He and Juli Ann travelled extensively. They fulfilled their childhood dreams of going on safari in Tanzania, East Africa; they also visited Mexico, Morocco, Spain, France, Portugal, Scandinavia, Germany, Russia, Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, Laos and Cambodia. They also enjoyed traveling and camping throughout the United States in their

teardrop camper.

Adrian was predeceased by Patricia; his brother-in-law and best friend, David Arnett Hobson; his older brother Merrill and his parents, Roy and Marion Law.

Adrian is survived by his son Randall, his daughter-in-law Hannah Wolfson, and two grandchildren, Alexander Ward and Vera Adrian Law, all of Birmingham, Alabama; his niece Kimberly Hobson Piira, of Duvall, Washington; and Juli Ann Boehm of Kansas City, MO; her four children; Kimberly (Derby), Jonathan (Rosalind), Allison (Steve), and Amanda; her grandchildren Alexis(Michael),Lindsey, Lauren (Chris), Josh and her great-grandson Bentley.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Donations can be made in Adrian's name to the Sierra Club ([www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)) or the Southern Poverty Law Center ([www.donate.splcenter.org](http://www.donate.splcenter.org)).

# Comments

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“ I had the ultimate delight in being Elmo A. Law's teaching assistant/ work study student in the UMKC biology department from 1975 through 1978, year round. I wanted to hurry and get my degree accomplished and Elmo (not a PhD at the time) needed someone like me to proctor and grade tests and wash lab glass. He was always so kind and great to talk to, we had many enlightening conversations about life and God and the universe. I remember Elmo had a friend he called "not my job Bob." We laughed, we cried and Elmo reminded me that God was still good. I'm terribly sad I didn't get to talk to him again, but happy that his life was happy.

Sally Eyman Hill - February 01 at 09:48 PM

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“ While reading a University newsletter this morning, I found out that one of my very favorite teachers at UMKC, DR. ELMO LAW, passed away just a few weeks ago, and my heart is broken. He had the sunniest personality and loved to laugh! He loved his profession and was passionate about supporting his students in whatever way he could to make their science education interesting and memorable.

Dr. Elmo is one of the people who most strongly encouraged me to go on and pursue my bachelor's degree after a hiatus of 19 years when I left college to raise my son. His was one of the first faces I saw in the audience when I went to the front of the room at Pierson Hall to accept an achievement award in the PACE program. I can still see him sitting there in the front row with the biggest smile on his face. I was -- and still am -- so touched that he cared enough to come to the ceremony. After the program was over, he gave me the biggest hug. When I said, "This is all your fault!" he winked at me, and said, "I know!"

The world is a little bit darker because it has lost yet another bright spirit this horrible year. Sending my deepest, most heartfelt condolences to his family and all who knew and loved him.



Thaylia Conway - October 20, 2020 at 11:47 AM

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“ When I met Elmo as he was then at a Shawnee mission Unitarian social event I thought he was a delightful new member. When I realized he was widowed I thought of my friend of over 40 years Juli Ann and thought they might like to meet. Oh my goodness did they enjoy meeting. They had a wonderful life together and I had a new best friend in JULIE ANN's husband.

Adrian you will be so missed

**Jennifer Ashby** - September 09, 2020 at 11:43 AM

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“ Every time I tell a bad joke I will be thinking of you with a smile in my heart.



**Amanda Boehm** - September 07, 2020 at 11:10 PM

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“ Mary Lou and I have shared many wonderful times and adventures together with Juli Ann and Adrian. He was a wonderful caring friend and so much fun.

We had a great trip to Hawaii with he and Juli Ann. We stayed in her condo on Kauai for a week and then cruised between the four islands.

We will dearly miss Adrian.

Mary Lou Chalmers and Max Jackson

**Max Jackson** - September 06, 2020 at 08:17 PM

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“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Reflections Memorial Services LLC - September 06, 2020 at 06:16 PM

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“ Jane & Henry Stoever were blessed to have a wonderful neighbor like Elmo on our block in Overland Park, KS, who always shared kind words, a laugh or two, bought cookies or pizza from our daughters' fund-raisers. He was a true gentleman. He was so devoted in caring for Patricia while she was an invalid. We were delighted when Elmo found Juli to share happiness with. Elmo, you are missed.

Henry M. Stoever - September 06, 2020 at 01:39 PM

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“ He was one of my most favorite instructors at UMKC and I took several of his courses. He really cared about his students and made all of his classes so enjoyable. He was a great person—May God bless his soul.

Jane Gallagher - September 06, 2020 at 11:06 AM

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Reflections Memorial Services LLC - September 03, 2020 at 11:33 AM

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“ 15 files added to the album Memories Album



Reflections Memorial Services LLC - September 01, 2020 at 06:03 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Reflections Memorial Services LLC - August 31, 2020 at 03:21 PM