



George Boyd

April 8, 1942 - July 12, 2017

George Boyd, 75 of Bloomington, IN died on Wednesday, July 12 at the Bloomington Hospice where he was a patient for several days. Born in Uniontown, PA, on April 8, 1942, George was the son of James and Marjorie Boyd.

An avid reader and amateur painter, he was a student of the classics and served as a church organist for many years. He studied at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ and received a Ph.D in Medieval Church Music from the Jacobs School of Music. In more recent years he was employed by IU as a specialist in the Bloomington Evaluation Services and Testing.

He is survived by his sister, Dorothy Barnes of New Philadelphia and a brother, James Boyd in New Salem, PA. An informal time of remembrance will be held at 1pm on Monday, July 17 at the St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 3800 E. Third St, Bloomington.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church
3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Tribute Wall

DP

“ I had the privilege of working with George for several years at the IU evaluation and testing office. At first, I admit I was a little intimidated by him. Rumor had it that he had frightened numerous department secretaries who made the mistake of asking a silly question or being uncertain about what they wanted. George could be a bit gruff. But I came to learn that beneath the gruffness was a man who truly cared about doing his job well, even if it was far afield from his academic study. George could also be set in his ways. On occasion I would ask him to do something that was outside of the usual way of doing things. His first response was usually, no, it can't be done. I learned that if I waited a couple of hours, he would typically come to my office with a plan for how to accomplish the “impossible” thing, or an airtight argument as to why it shouldn't be done. During my time as George's manager, my greatest concern was how we would survive his departure, since he had knowledge about his job that was unique to the university. George did a great service to me and IU by letting me know a year in advance of his retirement, allowing us to plan for an orderly transition. And after retirement he continued to assist us when requested. George may well be the smartest person I've ever known. I especially admired his facility for languages. After retirement he took an undergraduate Greek class, and was delighted to report that he had the highest grade in the class. I'm sure no one who knew him was surprised.

David Perry - July 22, 2017 at 04:53 PM

KG

“ George was like no other person I have ever known. It was my honor to have enjoyed his company.

Kathrine Glass

Kathrine Glass - July 20, 2017 at 11:06 AM

LG

“ For many years, I saw George three times a semester when he scored my scantron sheets at BEST. He was not only exceedingly capable and painstaking in his work, but also an interesting and often amusing person to talk to. However, I had no idea precisely how interesting and accomplished a person George was until I read his obituary. I am sorry that I will not get a chance to see him again. My sincere condolences to his friends and family.

Laura Ginger - July 17, 2017 at 10:52 AM

AG

“ Mr. George R Boyd was a great friend, a demanding but inspiring teacher, a purist and a breaker of paradigms at the same time (depending on the situation), a thespian, an artist par excellence, a true scholar of words, science, history and literature, a musician of the highest caliber, a gentle soul, a brave heart and a very forgiving soul. He had a sense of humor like no other (he was a true comedic thaumaturge). A self-described curmudgeon (as Lane said) we used to joke his username (grboyd) started exactly that way: Grrr... He was as cerebral as his hero Nero Wolfe and yet he was playful and jovial all the same. He was a consummate professional however visits to scanning room were often magical. I remember a winter when we looked through some of his stereograms. We'd invite those that would bring scanning jobs to look too but some couldn't see anything. I once asked him what his name would have been if he had been able to give it to him himself as a baby. His answer was: Grimbold. His middle initial ("R") gave it all away: he was a corsair and a maurauder, a picaroon of the most noble and free lineage and a truly adventurous spirit. Love you George ... and H(a)rumph! to you too. Sincerely, Adrian German

Adrian German - July 15, 2017 at 01:26 PM

LA

“ George was a man of few words, but if you were fortunate enough to be around for those few word, they were most certainly likely to be extremely enlightening, or extremely sharp. George was one of those rare people who really did seem to know something about everything. George was very frugal, very opinionated, and very caring to those people or things lucky enough to be tolerated by him. George was a lover of music, but nothing modern, which in his words was everything created after the year 1799 A.D. Among many other things, George was a painter, a computer programmer, a linguist , a writer, a star gazer, a sketch artist, a composer, a musician, a poet and an avid coffee drinker. Ξεκουραστείτε ειρήνη ο φίλος μου

Lane - July 14, 2017 at 01:54 PM

LA

“ George was a man of few words, but when one was fortunate enough to be around for those words they were likely to be extremely enlightening, or extremely sharp. George was the rare someone who honestly seemed to know something about everything. George was very frugal, very opinionated, and also very caring for those people or things he tolerated around him. George used to say he hated modern music, and by modern meant everything after the year 1799 A.D. Among many other things, George was a linguist, musician, card player, computer programmer, poet, sketch artist, painter, star gazer, an avid coffee drinker and self described curmudgeon.

Lane - July 14, 2017 at 01:39 PM