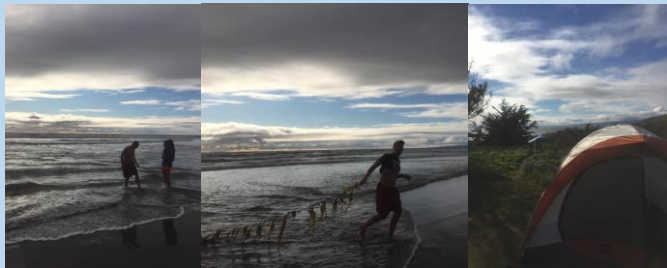


ABGN #17

Adam's Bimonthly Grad Newsletter

Ocean Camping

Finally got a hold of Tim, who was wrapping up PA school in Palo Alto just in time to see the 'Rona's arrival. Darcy's friend Leah, now living in Berkeley, came too. We fortified ourselves against the cold of Sunset State Beach, spot 23, with locally-purchased wood ("No booze?") and s'mores.



Camping photos shamelessly ripped from Tim's FB wall

Flight to Topanga

... "Flight" here in the "to flee" sense, what with all the fears of contraction on airplanes.

To assist Darcy's parents (and so I could spend a little more time outside my cluttered room), we drove the six hours to the northwest LA CDP Darcy calls home. We, along with Darcy's sister, Morgan, and her boyfriend/my friend Ian, have been here around 3 weeks. My daily routine hasn't changed much, but my desk is by a prettier window.



Grocery lines, captured mice, and fresh loquats

The Quarantine Games

A few months have gone by since the quarantine began. Teaching's been shifted to Zoom, and Davis bars have been clamoring not with rowdy students, but turkeys.

Fortunately, uz gamerz have been training our whole lives for this.

In addition to the now-usual Melee, I've been playing Age of Mythology, Golf with Friends, Rocket League, Colonist.io, Monopoly, Chess, and more.

Thanks for hangin' out.



The games and their players

Our darling Gene passed away from complications related to glioblastoma. We will miss his love, intelligence, humor, insight, strength, and loyalty. His presence was so strong that despite being a self-described introvert, everyone knew when Gene was in the room.

Gene was born in Eastover, SC and moved with his mother Margie to Peekskill, NY. Although it was not always an easy childhood, he loved growing up in the beauty of Peekskill. When he was 14, he moved with his mother and stepfather Jeff to Pacoima, CA where his sister and brother were born.

Gene was married to his love Randy for 35 years. He was a wonderful partner, an unwavering source of support during her health challenges. He adored his children: Kengee, Darcy and Morgan. He was the family's main cook, car mechanic, financial advisor, life coach, and driver.

Gene's jobs included selling Christmas cards in the summer, fishing for crab, and working as a paperboy, golf caddy, truck driver, sheet metal worker, and EOP director at CSUN. He began working for LAUSD as a custodian. By the time he retired from the Adult Division of LAUSD, he had been a principal for many years.

Darcy's Dad



Feb 13, 1943

Apr 21, 2020

In retirement Gene was just as prolific, a role model for how to retire. He took classes in ceramics, glass blowing, horse care, Zumba, and photography. He always enjoyed learning something new: wine making, gardening, canning, house and car maintenance, and cooking new recipes. Many of his activities gave joy to others, but not all. He did not inspire joy when he harnessed himself to the pitched roof of his house in Topanga to paint the trim.

Traveling, westerns, jazz, basketball, tennis, looking at his Topanga mountains and its wildlife, cooking for others (including his popular smoked salmon), gathering with friends and family, going to his son's track meets, and watching his daughters ride horses gave him such pleasure.

Gene loved and was loved by so many: his wife, his children, his sister Debbie (Dru), his brother Todd (Steph), his nieces and nephews, and his extended family of Simons/Jefferson/Fischer/Lazar relatives. Friendships made through his children, Randy, LAUSD, Topanga, and travel were some of his most valued relationships. We will miss him and are comforted by many memories like his wonderful laugh that made you feel that life was good.

--Randy, Darcy's mom

TuRbUIEnCe. With luck, the next newsletter'll be brighter!

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