



Robert Rankin White Ph.D.

February 8, 1942 - July 17, 2014

WHITE, Ph.D., ROBERT RANKIN

Robert Rankin White, Ph.D., 72, noted writer and historian of the early Taos Art Colony, died on July 17, 2014, after a lengthy struggle with Parkinson's Disease. Dr. White lived in his historic home near the University of New Mexico with wonderful caregivers, family, neighbors and cats. Dr. White served in the US Army in Vietnam, after which he returned home and worked on an advanced degree in hydrology. He lived and worked in Santa Fe before moving to Albuquerque, where he worked for the American Geological Survey. Following his passion for the Art of New Mexico, at age 50, he completed his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of New Mexico. He published numerous articles, three books and was a noted speaker on the Taos Art Colony. He also served as President of the Historical Society of New Mexico. Dr. White is survived by his sister, Eleanor White Viebig and brother-in-law Richard Viebig of Houston, Texas; nieces, Peggi Bloomquist and Tracy Broyles as well as cousins and other loving family members and friends. The funeral for Dr. White will be held at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas on Friday, July 25, 2014 at 1 p.m. A private interment will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery in Houston, Texas. Should friends desire, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Society or the charity of their choice. Please visit the online guestbook for Dr. White at www.FrenchFunerals.com

FRENCH

1111 University Blvd. NE
505-843-6333

Tribute Wall



“ *You will be missed*



Mike Cyplik - October 13, 2014 at 01:42 PM

DC

“ *Was so sorry to hear of Robert's passing. He was a good friend for many years. It was such a shame that a brilliant mind and a gentle soul had to suffer to communicate over his last years. But I think of him as the vital person I knew and loved. We spent hours taking walks and talking about the world, history, relationships, food....and how he loved to tease people. Robert is one person so many will miss. But he will be remembered forever.*

Dr. carol cassell - October 02, 2014 at 11:56 AM

VL

“ ~A gentle, warm, and generous friend and colleague who will be greatly missed. I am so sorry to know of the difficulties he faced in his last years, which seems so terribly unfair. I met Robert many years ago when he offered me a ride back to Albuquerque after a conference in Taos. We got acquainted on the roughly four-hour ride in his VW Bug that never traveled over 40 mph, and found a shared love of the Pre-Raphaelites among a diverse range of topics beyond just art. We only saw each other once again but remained in touch over the years until he was no longer really able to speak on the telephone. I can still hear his distinctive voice with its soft underlying Texas accent. He would periodically send me vital and interesting references relating to my research that I never would have found on my own. I am so grateful to have known him and I send my deepest condolences to his family.

Valerie Ann Leeds

Valerie Ann Leeds - August 13, 2014 at 08:39 AM

PT

“ I knew Robert for only a few months. Parkinson's had left him weak and slow. I sat across from him in a movement class. When he smiled, it was the most beautiful smile I've ever seen. He lit up the whole room. It was just a small piece of the person that he still was. I am sorry for the long and difficult journey he faced with Parkinson's. Rest in peace.

Pat Thalhammer - August 01, 2014 at 12:31 AM

DH

“ I still hear clearly in my mind the answering machine announce, "You have reached the White house." That's the voice of Robert I hold to, the one before his illnesses. It, and he, were then steady, direct, and with whimsy peeking through. Illnesses eroded so much in his final fifteen years, but memories of this wonderful person remain undiminished. Bits and pieces of recollections have come and gone today. Some I push away in a late fight on his behalf against the physical insults that diminished him. Other memories I embrace, ones evoked by the obituary's photograph: generous, ever curious, cheerful, and humble while blessed with uncommon intellect. With much fondness and deep respect I will long recall all these qualities and so much more about Robert.

—David & Jeanne Holtby

David & Jeanne Holtby - July 23, 2014 at 10:24 PM

BD

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Buck Dyck - July 21, 2014 at 12:51 PM