

From: all-employees-bounces@lists.sonoma.edu
To: all-employees@lists.sonoma.edu
Subject: Dr. David Fredrickson
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August 29, 2012

Faculty and Staff:

We recently received notice that Dr. David Fredrickson, founding member of SSU's Anthropology Department passed away. He retired from Sonoma State University in 1992 and was a major figure in California archaeology. Many of his students followed in his footsteps. Our thoughts go out to his family, friends and former students.

Below are some comments by Dr. Adrian Praetzelis, Director of the Anthropological Studies Center.

"David A. Fredrickson had been ill for some time. His wife, the irrepressible Vera-Mae, passed away one year ago.

Dave founded SSU's Anthropology Department in 1967 and hired its first faculty members. Under his leadership and in spite of its small size, the archaeology program developed a national reputation for student research and scholarship. Dave Fredrickson was a gentle and kindly man who rarely criticized others. He led by the example of his own commitment to research, his student family, and his music. Dave was a talented musician whose recordings are part of the Smithsonian Institution's Folkways collection. The gatherings of musicians and intellectuals at his Berkeley home are legendary; his influence as a friend and mentor to a generation of California archaeologists is immeasurable. A memorial web page will be hosted by SSU's Anthropological Studies Center, an organization Dave founded in 1974."

Ruben Armiñana
President