



Bruce Alexander Anderson

DEC 24, 1941 - DEC 7, 2024



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Bruce Anderson of Pahoehoe, Hawaii passed away on December 6, 2024. He was born Bruce Alexander Berheim in Oakland, California, in 1941. As a kid, he was interested in science and invention and taught himself how to make gunpowder which, unfortunately, resulted in a small explosion at the local high school—earning him a visit to juvenile hall. His subsequent distrust of authority notwithstanding, he joined the U.S. Navy at eighteen and attended nuclear power school, serving as a submarine reactor operator surveilling the globe underwater, including long weeks under the polar ice.

Bruce was a longtime Hawaii resident, whose life here began when he left the submarine service in the sixties and enrolled in UH. In 1976 he was among the first graduating class from the Richardson School of Law. After graduation, Bruce was instrumental in getting the Libertarian Party on the Hawaii ballot. In the eighties he was invited to Chuuk to advise the government of the Federated States of Micronesia on the writing of their constitution.

On his return to the Big Island, Bruce purchased a rustic house in Puna, where he and longtime companion Dale Pratt spent their days working in their gardens and caring for an interesting variety of animals, including Bruce's pet rats. Together, Bruce and Dale traveled the globe—she remembers in particular their trip to Petra, Jordan, where Bruce disappeared with a young guide, scaling a dangerous cliff trail behind the main ruin, returning hours later with tales of being invited to drink tea with a local family.

Bruce is remembered for his kindness to any in need, be it human or animal, and for his incisive intellect, analytic prowess and infectious, offbeat sense of humor.

Bruce is survived by Dale Pratt; his daughter, Eva K. Anderson; grandson Justin J. Terada; sister Patricia Anderson Harvey; brother Russell Anderson, five nieces and eleven grand nieces.



Tribute Wall

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Bill Coke posted:

Gentle, sensitive and a very funny sense of humor. He will be missed by all who new him.

January 13 at 1:40 PM



Sue Omatsu posted:

Bruce was always a fun and interesting person to talk to. He was a happy person with his white beard and great smile. He will be missed but always in our hearts. sue

January 13 at 1:22 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Bruce by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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