



Dr. Douglas Sprague, Professor Emeritus of Educational Psychology, Passed Away Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Dr. Douglas Sprague, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Educational Psychology, passed away Wednesday, January 6, 2016. He began his career at CSU, Hayward (East Bay) in the fall of 1965. He retired in June 2001 and participated in the Faculty Early Retirement Program.

The following is from the San Francisco Chronicle, January 17, 2016.

(<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/obituary.aspx?n=douglas-sprague&pid=177320343>)

Doug Sprague

July 24, 1933-January 6, 2016

Douglas Goldsbury Sprague of Hayward, California died surrounded by family and friends on January 6, 2016. He was 82 years old. A professor and onetime departmental chair, Doug taught Educational Psychology at California State University, East Bay for 40 years.

Doug was also an active member of the Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church in Hayward, joining the congregation in 1979 and serving as President from 1989 to 1991. During the 1990s, Doug sat as the board psychologist on the Unitarian Universalist Association's Ministerial Fellowship Committee ("MFC"), which oversaw the vetting and credentialing of Unitarian ministerial candidates nationwide.

An adored husband, father, grandfather, and uncle, Doug touched everyone who knew him with his generosity, kindness, and humor. He often remarked upon what a wonderful and full life he had. Doug loved reading biographies, fiction and poetry as well as creating and binding small books. Later in life, he developed a passion for boogie woogie blues and practiced it daily on the piano. He made tea for his wife Natalie every morning.

Doug was born on July 24, 1933 to Mary and William "Bud" Sprague in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, where the family had been living temporarily. A year after Doug was born, the Spragues moved back to their home in Hopkins, Minnesota where he spent most of his childhood years, graduating from Harley Hopkins Grade School and then St. Louis Park High School.

Like his parents and sisters Sara and Susan, Doug attended Carleton College, a private liberal arts school in Northfield, Minnesota. He graduated in 1955. Continuing his higher education, he earned a Master's degree and doctorate in Counseling Psychology from the [University of Minnesota](http://www.umn.edu) in 1959 and 1966, respectively.

His first marriage resulted in one son, Brandon. He married his current wife Natalie Forrest in 1980 and became a loyal and loving step-father for Natalie's son, Christopher. For 36 years, Doug was a boon companion to Natalie, and with her read avidly, drank lots of tea and traveled widely, especially to Montmartre in Paris where they loved to take long walks and visit museums and cafes.

Doug adored his seven-year-old grandson Henry, with whom he spent every Wednesday, picking berries, reading, drawing, and making paper airplanes and shortcake. Regular meetings with close friends was among the many things Doug enjoyed, including coffee and croissants with a group of friends at Le Paradis on Mission Boulevard in Hayward every Saturday. He also loved to give gifts - often of fruit salad or books he had made; he will always be remembered for his incredible thoughtfulness.

Doug's loved ones who died before him include his parents and his stepson Christopher Morby. He is survived by his beloved wife, Natalie Forrest of Hayward, CA; his son Brandon Sprague, his daughter in law Meghan Laslocky and grandson Henry Sprague, of Oakland; his sister Susan Gately of Wheaton, Illinois; his sister Sara McNaughton and her husband John of Royal Oak, Michigan; and six nieces and nephews.

A memorial will be held at the Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church in Hayward on Saturday, January 30 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to the Friends of the Hayward Public Library or to the Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church Memorial Fund.

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