

Dr. Delmo Della-Dora, Professor Emeritus of Teacher Education, Passed Away Tuesday, December 22, 2015

Dr. Delmo Della-Dora, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Teacher Education, passed away Tuesday, December 22, 2015. He began his career at CSU, Hayward (East Bay) in the summer of 1973 and in the fall of 1973 was appointed Chair of the Department of Teacher Education. He served in that capacity until the fall of 1978. He retired in September 1992.

The family of Dr. Della-Dora has provided the following obituary.

Delmo Della-Dora passed away on Tuesday, December 22, after a short, but intense battle with cancer. He was 89 years old.

Delmo was born in Michigan, graduated from high school, and served 18 months in the US Navy as an officer prior to returning to Michigan with his wife, Nadine and stepdaughter, Marilyn. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Michigan, followed by a Master's and Doctorate degree in Education from Wayne State University while working part-time as a chemist, his family expanded to include three additional daughters. In 1965 he was invited by USAID to head a project in the Somali Republic to develop the first National Teacher Education Center. Following his return from Somalia he had five special assignments in Michigan, one of which included decentralization of the Detroit Public Schools. He retired in 1971. Upon retirement from Wayne County Schools he moved to Mill Valley in 1972 to become the principal of Mill Valley Middle School and later joined the faculty of Cal State Hayward. He retired a second time in 1992, as Professor Emeritus, to become a full time community volunteer.

Throughout all of Del's professional and volunteer activities in which he participated, whether as a leader or participant, he demonstrated beliefs, ideals and behaviors that he believed are needed to live effectively and compassionately in a democracy. He exemplified the values of service and kindness to those less fortunate by assuming leadership roles in numerous community agencies such as Rotary, the Salvation Army, Ruby's Place, Hayward's Task Force to End Homelessness, and St. Rose Hospital Board. His abilities and compassionate nature will be missed many friends and family and those he helped.

Delmo's wife, Nadine, preceded his death on September 25, 2011. Del is survived by his three daughters, Denise Della-Dora of San Mateo, her daughter Amy DeLaCruz and granddaughter Nica Della-Dora Joan McLain and husband, Rick, of La Quinta, California Diane Cardinalli and her husband, Carl, of Rancho Mirage, their daughters Kristen Cardinalli and her two sons, AJ and Andrew and Andria Cardinalli Stein, her husband, Josh, and three grandchildren, Renn, Cole and Auden. Delmo will be missed by enumerable family, close friends, and former colleagues and community volunteers. He will be remembered as a role model, mentor, leader, and friend.