



Thomas Harsha Pagenhart Passed Away November 10, 2013



Thomas H. Pagenhart, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, passed away November 10, 2013 at his residence in Castro Valley, California. He began his career at CSU, Hayward (East Bay) in 1964. He retired in 1991.

The following was published in the San Francisco Chronicle on December 11, 2013.

Thomas Harsha Pagenhart, 92, died peacefully on Sunday, November 10, 2013 at his residence, Baywood Court in Castro Valley. He was born January 11, 1921 in Seattle, WA, and grew up in Washington, D.C., Manila, and Santa Cruz, CA. He attended Santa Cruz High and San José State University. As a naval officer during WWII, he participated in the Normandy Invasion at Omaha Beach. He received his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley in 1969, and taught Geography at California State University at Hayward until retiring in 1991. He was an accomplished pianist, a graceful dancer, an unrepentant imp, and a near-tireless optimist. His charm was unfailing and directed to absolutely everyone he met. He will be dearly missed. Tom is survived by two daughters, Anne (Trond) and Polly (Jennifer). An informal remembrance for Tom will be held at Baywood Court in Castro Valley at 3 pm on Saturday, December 14, 2013.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=168464763>

The following is from Dr. David Larson, Chair of the Department of Anthropology, Geography and Environmental Studies:

In thinking about Prof. Pagenhart, three thoughts kept recurring:

#1) He developed and taught for many years some of the first courses within the CSU and indeed in the entire country on the geography of energy resources and water resources. His legacy lives on in GEOG 4320 (Energy & Society) and GEOG 4350 (Water Resources & Management), two linchpins in my department's continuing contribution to sustainability education and the university's sustainability ILO.

#2) He was an early and unwavering advocate for environmental curriculum at Cal State Hayward many years before it became common throughout the CSU system. And he supported the Department of Geography taking ownership of and administering the multidisciplinary Environmental Studies program.

#3) When Professor Pagenhart came to Cal State Hayward in the mid 1960s he joined a unit that would become the Department of Geography and Anthropology. After having been separate for over 40 years, Anthropology and Geography have reunited and, along with Environmental Studies, now comprise the Department of A.G.E.S., which became operational two months before his death.

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