

George Randall West

June 13, 1933 – May 31, 2021

There are so many memories that many have of George. Here are a few that emerged as Judith Hamje, Karen Snyder and Jim Troxel chatted about how his life had impacted theirs.

When George arrived in 5th City, one of his first tasks was to create the 5th City model with Bob Vance. Jim remembers George was his first supervisor in 1968 following the April riots. George was calm and lowkey, exemplifying the style everyone needed to embody.

Maybe it was George's seminary background that assisted him in giving meaningful and spirit filled lectures in Academies, ITIs, Global Research Assemblies, witnesses – any time he was called upon. Jim was particularly impacted by George's talk on model building. (See the list of talks available on the Global Archives Website below.)

LATIN AMERICA has been the part of the world where George spent most of his life:

- First there was **GUATEMALA**, where he met DonnaMarie in the village of Conacaste. His work there focused on agriculture as he experimented with drip irrigation (that he later used in Mexico as well). Judith remembers that when it became dangerous for the Wests to live in the village, they refused to leave. The Panchayat's response was that the Wests had to have a plan for leaving in an emergency. When a local priest told them about the murder of someone in the area, they moved on to **VENEZUELA**, teaching ITIs and working in the Cano Negro project.
- **INTERMISSION**: Was it 1986 when George and DonnaMarie were in Chicago for a year? George was assigned to the LENS team. Jim remembers George facilitating a number of courses when he was asked to facilitate the Cuban American Chamber of Commerce since he knew Spanish. The program was paid for by the Department of Economic Development. The Assistant Commissioner of the Department, a Cuban American woman, co-facilitated the course with George. As soon as the course started, it became apparent that George's Spanish was not a good mix with Cuban Spanish. Fortunately the Cuban co-facilitator stepped up to the challenge of providing the Spanish needed and the course went smoothly from there.
- Judith was with the Wests during the years that followed in **PERU**. She remembers that George has always been a mentor to her from the time she met him. He was always bringing awareness and never took easy answers. If you told him he led a great collegium, he would ask you to tell him two things that made it great. He was always very intentional in his care about relationships, and later called Judith in Massachusetts from Latin America when her mother died.
- At the **MEXICO** Conference in 1988, the Wests became a part of the Litibu community that has evolved to become the **Litibu EcoVillage**. The three of us remember how relationships continued to be George's forte. Not only was he key in the leadership of the Litibu EcoVillage, but he and DonnaMarie intentionally invited the surrounding neighbors to their casa for conversations and meals. This resulted in the formation of a

Greater Litibu 'Association' of the broader community. George's love for community led to his writing *Creating Community: Finding meaning in the place we live* (which he made available along with DonnaMarie's book, *What More Could We Ask For?* - on the Global Archives website: https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/17067.pdf).

Many more stories are waiting to be told of George being a social pioneer in his community engagement and a gentle soul in his care for individuals.

Some of the talks George gave over the years:

Fifth City Instructions	1967	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6829.pdf
Contemplation	1970	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/7270.pdf
Transparent Doing lecture	1970	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/7153.pdf
Daily Office Witness - The Permeator Question	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/7141.pdf
Knowing - Spirit Lecture	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6842.pdf
Model Building Methods	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/7192.pdf
Model Building Methods	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/21205.pdf
Spirit Conversations	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6937.pdf
Spirit Conversations	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/13283.pdf
Spirit Methods: Spirit, Gospel and Psalms Conversations	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/21315.pdf
Spirit Methods: Spirit, Gospels and Psalm Conversations	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6943.pdf
Spirit Methods: Spirit, Gospels and Psalms Conversations	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/13287.pdf
Two worlds - Gogarten	1971	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6801.pdf
Dynamics of Justification and Sanctification, The	1972	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6744.pdf
Grand Ball Context	1972	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6827.pdf
OW - Trek I - Aweful Encounter	1972	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6699.pdf
OW - Trek XIII - Certitude at Center	1972	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/7216.pdf
Global Trip	1973	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6973.pdf
Sanctification #7	1973	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/6983.pdf
Their Mission: Helping Latin countries, people	1990	https://wedgeblade.net/files/archives_assets/21391.pdf