



Patrick Rowland Bennett

March 17, 1943 - March 12, 2021

Patrick Rowland Bennett, 77, of Crystal Falls, MI passed away Friday, March 12, 2021 at his home with his family by his side.

At Patrick's family's request there will be no services at this time.

Condolences to the family of Patrick Rowland Bennett may be expressed online at www.nashfuneralhome.net

The family has entrusted the Nash Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Crystal Falls with arrangements.

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Dear Marg,
My apologies for being so late in writing. I just learned of Pat’s passing while searching for information on two of his articles that Michael Marlo at the University of Missouri is trying to find. Perhaps you might help him?



I am so deeply sorry for your loss. Every thing I know about linguistics I learned from Pat. I was a terrible student but I survived and even sometimes thrived during my professional career in competitive linguistics departments. I have now retired and live in Milwaukee. I’ve been planning on getting in touch with Pat and you. If you would like to get in touch, please contact me at: abierst@yahoo.com.

Again, my deepest sympathies,

Ann

(Ann Biersteker)

Ann Biersteker - October 04, 2024 at 08:34 PM

KT

“ I was very sorry to learn (belatedly) from a colleague of Patrick's passing. I had a class on Bantu linguistics with him the year before he retired, and I learned a lot from him. Best wishes to the family.

KD Thompson - October 04, 2024 at 06:04 PM



“ I was also his graduate student at the University of Wisconsin in the later 70s and early 80s. I was part of the team that developed his teaching grammar of Kikuyu. He sparked my interest in Bantu linguistics, which has been my speciality throughout my academic career. My first class with him was a course on Arabic dialects, in which he kept talking about Kikuyu. Later we went to Kenya together to pursue different projects and he helped me get over the hump on the way to one of the most life-changing stretches of experience I've ever had. And he was a cat lover, just like me. I am deeply moved and saddened by his passing, and I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Carolyn Harford - June 21, 2021 at 03:21 PM

DW

“ I was a graduate student of Patrick's at the University of Wisconsin during the 1970s. We kept in touch the whole time but we had been in almost weekly contact the last year or two of his life. My wife Barbara and I both studied African linguistics with him. But I learned more from him outside the classroom. I spent an enormous amount of time in his office where I learned the real scope of language in Africa and beyond. He was also well versed in folklore - Bantu-language folklore, African folklore and world folklore and that was my main interest. Just recently he wrote a letter on my behalf which helped me obtain a position at the African Studies Center at Boston University. And he helped me with a paper on Hausa folklore and, more recently, with a paper on Bantu, our shared passion. I never met anyone with the scope of his learning. And he was more than willing to share it with anyone who was interested.

David Westley
Brookline MA

David Westley - April 26, 2021 at 06:09 PM

DK

“ Dear Marg, Abraham, and Family,

So sorry to hear about Pat's passing. What an amazing blessing he has been, along with you all, to ABT and work in SIL. I remember fondly the short but intense time of being hosted by you all way back in the early 2000's when Pat was training me on some software. His thinking was often way up there some place, but he was good at bringing things down to the rest of our levels when needed. I still am amazed at the linguistic information he had in his head and could recall when needed. So many times you could watch him doing what looked like searching the database while he was talking. He was amazing and we all shall miss him.

I am praying that God, as he has been, will continue to be your strong place and that He will give you all His grace and peace to remember Pat well and look forward with hope.

Blessings,

Darrel Kauffman, Isaiah 55, SIL

Darrel Kauffman - April 06, 2021 at 09:41 AM

SA

“ Hello Marg and Abraham,
We were so very sorry to hear about Pat. He was a great guy and Susan remembers having many meaningful conversations with him about the state of the world while our daughters, and you, Abraham, played in homeschool band. Your family also did us an enormous favor keeping our car for us for a whole school year. More recently, he would surprise Susan on Facebook, weighing in every few months or so with his wisdom and sense of humor. We cannot begin to fathom how you must be feeling with such a huge loss to your family, but we wanted you to know Pat is remembered fondly by our family. Without a doubt he will be missed by all his family and friends, and also by his Internet buddies. Love to you both from the Bostons.

SAB - March 25, 2021 at 03:28 PM

JH

“ Dear Marg, Abe, and family:

I'm so very sorry for your loss. I never met Pat in person--only by video conference. Wish I could've been with him at least once in person.

Over the last nearly 2 years I've worked with him--whether one on one, or in our group meetings--even in the "Cyber world" it was clear to me that he was a gentle, humble, very intelligent man. He was always ready to help me think through some linguistic problem I faced in my daily work with Hebrew, Syriac, and Aramaic--calling on his truly vast knowledge of Semitic languages, as well as Greek and Latin. He was always so very patient with me; he never seemed to tire of my frequent requests for help. I felt privileged to have such an intellect at my "virtual" beckoned call!

Pat's homegoing will be a palpable loss for me, as well as for all of us who worked with him; and we shall miss him dearly.

May God comfort you all, as only He can.

*Joel Harlow
Seed Company*

Joel Harlow - March 22, 2021 at 06:30 AM

SG

“ I would just like to convey my deepest sympathy to all Pats family and friends at such an incredibly sad time. Me and Pat would chat on a regular basis on some web forums and i have to say he was one of the sweetest, gentlest and most gentlemanly of friends. I loved listening to his stories, updates on his weather, his love of cheese, his dogs and fascination with Ravens, but above all else, i was always in awe of the love he so obviously had for his family. I will miss him immensely. God bless.

Sarah Grant - March 21, 2021 at 06:35 AM

KJ

“ Dear Marg , Abe and family,

Getting to know and work with Pat over the past 15 years in ABT has been one of the delights of my life. I always looked forward to the ABT Board meetings in Chicago so that I could say Hi in person to Pat and Marg and Abe, too. Pat was always ready with a story about teaching, or linguistics, or Semitic studies, or the farm in WI, or his dogs, or walking, slipping & sliding down the hill to the center of town on an icy day. I think of him as a gentle giant, giant in intellect and energy to learn and understand, and gentle to those of us who listened. Hearing to the reports of his work was not just listening, but more like enjoying his window into life and work, and being delighted by his every novel turn of phrase.

I wish I had been afforded the opportunity to see him in Crystal Falls and the long walk down the hill, which I imagine he is now viewing with delight from another vantage point.

Thank you family for sharing him with us, and may you too find comfort in the gift of a happy memory, a special book, or a walk to the center of town.

*Blessings,
Kris Jensen*

Kris Jensen - March 19, 2021 at 03:45 PM

KM

“ *It was my privilege to know Pat through Aramaic Bible Translation, and to witness his passion, knowledge, skill, and dedication for God's work and for his team members. One characteristic of Pat that I will especially miss is his wonderful sense of humor. I am so very glad that because of Christ, we will see him again!*

Karman Morey - March 19, 2021 at 01:24 PM

“ I've known Dr. Bennet over the years of my involvement with Aramaic Bible Translation. I have consistently seen a gentle, hard working man. He was gifted with an ability to attend to detail. He was willing to go the extra mile to serve and to gain credentials to validate the team's work.

Anyone who met him soon realized that he was a unique person, a memorable person. He will be sorely missed on the Aramaic Bible Translation team. I'm sure he will be missed in other circles as well.

*My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.*

*His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.*

*When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
In Him, my righteousness, alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.*

Dr. Bennet is found with him now.

David Snyder - March 18, 2021 at 11:58 AM

MH

Dear Marg and Abraham,

I am so sorry to be learning only now about Patrick's passing. Please accept my sympathy.

I remember you and Patrick well from your days in the Department of African Languages and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Patrick as my brilliant colleague, yourself as our student.

It turns out that a common friend - Bantuist colleague Derek Nurse has contacted me recently while searching for Patrick's manuscript on Thaagicuu, so I looked for Patrick on the internet...

Let me hope that you and Abraham are finding solace in fond memories.

Sincerely,

Magdalena Hauner

P.S. If you ever come to Madison, do let me know. It would be lovely to see you.

Magdalena Hauner - September 16, 2023 at 05:24 PM