

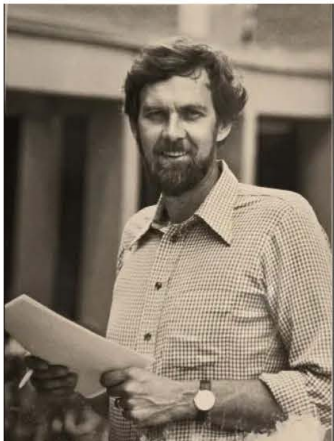


**HJ International**  
GRADUATE SCHOOL for PEACE and PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

# NEWSLETTER

*In Memoriam*

**March 19, Volume III, Number 3**



## Dr. Darrol Bryant

Dr. Darrol Bryant was directly involved in the development of early interfaith programs that originated in the early years of HJI (UTS at that time). These included the first "theologians conferences" convened in Barrytown in the late 1970s, and, as an outgrowth of those meetings and with the support of our Founders and then president Dr. David S.C. Kim, the formation of the New Ecumenical Research Association (New ERA). Darrol also played a major role in New ERA's conferences on "God: The Contemporary Discussion" which took place throughout the 1980s; the three major interfaith gatherings known as the Assembly of the World's Religions which took place in 1985, 1990 and 1992; and many other interfaith initiatives and publications. Over several decades Darrol served as a beloved mentor and dear friend to many HJI students and alumni. He will be missed. The following In Memoriam pays tribute to Darrol. HJI sends its condolences to Darrol's wife, Susan, and the entire family.

[In Memoriam Read Here](#)



## Jonathan Wells

Dr. Jonathan Wells graduated from HJI [then UTS] in 1978 and went on to earn his Ph.D. at Yale University. To the family and friends of Jonathan, a most beloved and greatly respected alumnus, who made all of us proud to know him, we extend condolences and appreciation to his family and friends.

[In Memoriam Read Here](#)

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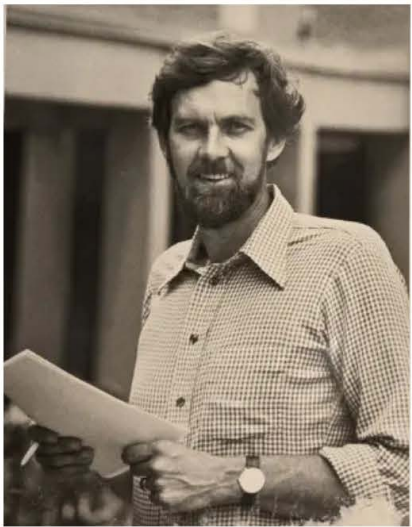


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## M. Darrol Bryant

Share a Memory

Obituary

Events

Guestbook

### M. Darrol Bryant Obituary

March 13, 1942 - March 1, 2025

With sad but full hearts we announce the passing of Darrol Bryant after several months of declining health.

Beloved husband of Susan Hodges Bryant, father extraordinaire to Ben (Isabel), Jessica, Lucas (Kirsty) and Emma (Clinton). Extra proud grandfather of Ethan, Kayla, Zoe, Sloane and Sydney. Their nickname for him was Grandpa Yeti. Also cherished by his in-laws Fred, Connie and Rosemary Hodges and the Bagale family.

He was the eldest of four children born to Alex and Debe (Hendrickson) Bryant. Missing his gentle guidance are his twin sisters Sherryl Roth (Roger) and Sherry Bryant, and his brother Kim Bryant (Anne), as well his many nieces and nephews.

Born in Pasco, Washington, during the Second World War, Darrol was raised in Rolla, North Dakota---a tight-knit family farm community under a big blue sky on the great northern plains.

While treasuring his roots (his childhood nickname was "Cowboy",) Darrol was destined to travel far and wide. He left Rolla to attend Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. After studying philosophy and religion, he went on to obtain a Master of Divinity degree at Harvard University. After graduating from Harvard, he worked for the Lutheran World Federation in Geneva, Switzerland, on a youth project that took him to almost every country in South America. In that role he experienced the powerful effects of liberation theology in helping the poor and oppressed find a way to improve their lives.

Darrol then settled happily in Canada, accepting a teaching post at Wilfrid Laurier University and completing a doctoral program at St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto. While in Toronto, he met Susan, his wife of almost 50 years. In 1973, he became a professor of Religion and Culture at Renison College at the University of Waterloo where he remained until his retirement in 2005 and was awarded the honour of Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

While having authored or edited over 25 books and organized dozens of international conferences, his abiding legacy will be among students and fellow trail blazers committed to interfaith dialogue. He was a gifted academic, yet he repeatedly emphasized that dialogue is more than the exchange of ideas. It also involves the experience of engaging one another, of participating in one another's religious life, practice and rituals.

Darrol travelled to India many times, forming fast friendships with scholars and practitioners in these communities. His great delight was guiding groups of students for a semester of study in India where he introduced them to life and people in Hindu ashrams, Sikh gudwaras, Buddhist monasteries, and Islamic and Christian communities. He was always warmly received.

Darrol was a straight-up fellow, with absolutely no guile or personal agenda. His family, friends and students, who often travelled with him, appreciated his gentle ways, his cornball humour, and his deep wisdom. He was wonderful to be with, whether in the



classroom, around the card table, shooting hoops, paddling the Temagami wilderness or enjoying family in the 1000 Islands.

The family so appreciates the skilled and compassionate support provided by the doctors, nurses, and caregivers for Darrol in the past few months.

As was his wish, cremation has taken place. There will be a commemoration in the spring, when we can gather and celebrate the many seeds that Darrol has planted in our hearts.

To honour Darrol, donations to Rension University College would be greatly appreciated and may be arranged through the Erb & Good Family Funeral Home, 171 King St. S., Waterloo at 519-745-8445 or [www.erbgood.com](http://www.erbgood.com)

To [send flowers](#) to the family or [plant a tree](#) in memory of M. Darrol, please [visit our floral store](#).

Published on March 6, 2025 in the the Waterloo Record

Visit [Erb & Good Family Funeral Home](#) for more details.

## Events

There are no events scheduled.

You can still show your support by sending flowers directly to the family, or plant a tree in memory of M. Darrol Bryant.

[Visit the Tribute Store](#)

Funeral Arrangements by  
Erb & Good Family Funeral  
Home

Contact

Directions


## Guestbook

Welcome to M. Darrol Bryant's memorial page. Share your heartfelt memories, condolences and stories here.

Share a Memory

To Susan Bryant and Family. With appreciation and condolences.

Thomas Walsh, on behalf of friends from UTS [now HJI]  
5 days ago



White Florist's Choice was purchased for the family of M. Darrol Bryant. [Send Flowers](#)

Darrol was a classmate in Rolla, ND, Class of '60. Had a great time at a high school reunion with him and his wife. So enjoyed hearing about his experiences and travels through the years. God bless.

LaRon Croft  
a week ago

We are grateful to Dr. Yani Maniates for sharing the news of the passing of our precious friend and also an interfaith mentor, Prof. M. Darrol Bryant. We have fond memories of his visit to India and also association with members of the Baha'i Faith ...

Continue Reading

Dr. A. K. Merchant  
March 11, 2025

We were all sad to learn about the passing away of an old and dear friend Prof. M. Darrol Bryant. I fondly recall my first meeting with him when he visited Guru Nanak Foundation, New Delhi, where I was then serving as Director. It was Darrol, who inv...

Continue Reading

Mohinder Singh  
March 10, 2025

March 11, 2025



Dearest Darrol Lovely Darrol, may his memory be a blessing.

**Don Druick**

March 9, 2025



I have so many fond memories of Darrol. The one that is top of mind is visiting with him and his family at their cottage in the 1000 islands. I was in the middle of a religious transition and his non-judgmental home was the safest place on the planet...

**[Continue Reading](#)**

**Jolanda Jansen**

March 8, 2025



We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Waterloo Record

**A Memorial Tree was planted for Darrol M. Bryant**

March 3, 2025



**[Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree](#)**

I remember after moving into our house in Elmira, Darrol brought over a banana loaf as a welcome gift. The start of a lovely neighbour relationship. Our children became good friends. I am pleased to have met up again at the Buddhist monastery a few m...

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**Margarite Knechtel**

March 9, 2025



Darrol taught a religious study course that I took at UW as a mature student. I remember his gentle ways and philosophical approach to questions. He always had a way of helping students see a different view of thinking about things. Mary Anne Con...

**[Continue Reading](#)**

**Mary Anne Connell**

March 6, 2025



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Seonghwa

# In Memory of Jonathan Wells



Jonathan Wells

**Spouse:** Lucy Wells

**Children:** Josie, Peter

**DOB:** September 19, 1942



**Blessing Date:** July 1, 1982

**Ascension:** September 19, 2024

**Seonghwa Ceremony:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 2:00pm at Seattle Family Church, 7000 26th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117

**Zoom link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/251525455>

Password: 2020

Dr. Jonathan Wells was a member of the Unification Church from 1974 and was blessed in 1982. Thanks to Rev. Moon, after graduating from the Unification Seminary, Jonathan earned two PhDs. His first was Christian Theology from Yale University and his second was in Developmental Biology from UC Berkeley. Following this, he became a well-known critic of Darwinism when in 2000 he published the book *Icons of Evolution*, which basically exposed the dishonest “evidence” for Darwinism in high school and college textbooks.

Rev. Moon inspired Jonathan both through his Divine Principle theology and his vision for America. Specifically, he often spoke about how America is blessed by God not just for itself but to serve the world as an example of freedom.

Jonathan is survived by his wife Lucy Wells, his daughter Dr. Josie Olsen, her husband Lincoln, their three boys, Ethan, Mateo and Bodhi and his son Peter Wells. We miss him terribly but know his legacy against materialism will live on.



In Memory of Adeline Winter Triggol



In Memory of Ambrose Kahnke



In Memory of Peter Hyo Yul Kim

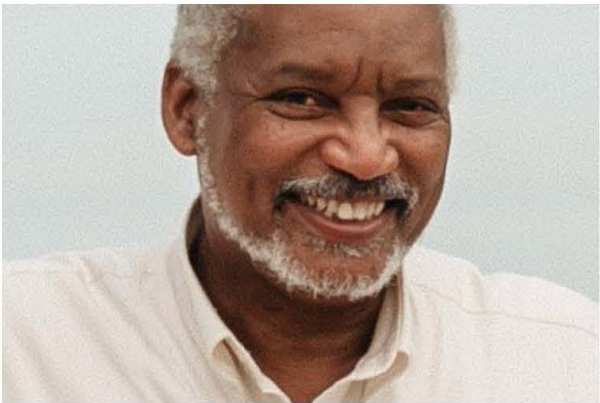


In Memory of Etsuo Ishida



In Memory of John Rodney Scanlan

In Memory of Jonathan Wells



In Memory of Carlton L. Johnson



In Memory of Werner Gottfried Seubert

< In Memory of Peter  
Hyo Yul Kim

In Memory of Etsuo  
Ishida >

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Registration Questions

**Q:** I don't see any welcome email, did my registration go through?



Find the answer

## Airtable Questions

**Q:** I registered but it says I need to create an airtable account, how do I do that?

Find the answer

## System Questions

**Q:** I forgot to bookmark my dashboard page! How do I find it again?

Find the answer

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*Blessed Family photos by [@Fukuya.Sano](#)*