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Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology

Title

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Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/88n1w7tx>

Journal

Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology, 3(1)

ISSN

0191-3557

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Publication Date

1981-07-01

Peer reviewed

Memorial to

Ronald D. Douglas (1954-1981)

Edward C. Gardner (1946-1981)

Bruce A. Jenkins (1953-1981)

RONALD D. DOUGLAS, EDWARD C. (TED) GARDNER, and BRUCE A. JENKINS died tragically August 28, 1981, in the crash of a light plane shortly after takeoff from the Seiad Valley Airport in the Klamath National Forest. They had just completed an archaeological and historical survey of an area along Grider Creek in the Klamath wilderness area prior to a planned timber sale and were returning to their homes in southern California when the accident occurred.

Ron Douglas was born on September 8, 1954, in Orange County, California, where he lived the greater part of his life. After high school, Ron entered Fullerton Junior College, where in 1976 he received the A.A. degree. It was at Fullerton College that he first encountered the subject of anthropology. Ron's father described him as, at best, an average student in high school, without any particular interests except the out-of-doors. Anthropology clearly meshed with Ron's natural



Ronald D. Douglas



Edward C. (Ted) Gardner



Bruce A. Jenkins

curiosity and soon became his life pursuit.

Ron continued his education at California State University, Fullerton, where he received the B.A. (*cum laude*, 1978) and M.A. (1980) degrees. He also attended archaeological field school at Washington State University (Ozette Village, 1976) and the University of Arizona, Tucson (Grasshopper Ruin, 1978). While in school, Ron worked at the Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary, Orange County, California. This association greatly increased his knowledge of the biological world and precipitated his fascination with cultural ecology.

Ron began his professional career in archaeology while a student at California State University, Fullerton, as an Associate and later Director of the CSUF Archaeological Research Facility. In his last full-time year at Fullerton (1978), he also began working for several of the local cultural resource management consulting firms. By 1979, he was working full-time as a project archaeologist for Larry Seeman Associates. During this association, Ron developed rapidly both in knowledge of cultural resource management and in his understanding of business practices. By 1981, due to Ron's efforts, Larry Seeman Associates Cultural Resource Division was a thriving and professionally respected business.

Ron's personal research interests focused primarily on the desert regions. His Master's thesis was the result of investigations conducted between 1975 and 1977 at Joshua Tree National Monument. He was particularly interested in ceramic analysis and population dynamics as reflected in the late prehistoric period. This interest eventually led him to the Mojave Sink region and, in response to his urging, the Anthropology Department of CSUF began to use that area for an archaeological field school. In 1979, the Lake Mojave Archaeological Project was established with Ron as the Research Director. Students from Fullerton College and California State University, Dominguez Hills, as well as CSUF have

participated in this program. It was Ron's efforts that made the Lake Mojave Archaeological Project the educational and research success that it has become.

Ted Gardner was born on January 26, 1946, in Kansas, where he lived his early years. Soon after graduation from high school, he entered the United States Army where he served four years as a meteorologist. Upon discharge from the service in 1968, he enrolled at the University of the Americas, Cholula, Puebla, Mexico, where he received the B.A. (1972) and M.A. (1977) degrees. In Mexico, Ted studied archaeology and ethnology, specializing in ceramic analysis and social systems. He was fascinated by contemporary native society and became fluent in both Spanish and Nahuatl. He was considered among the most knowledgeable persons on the archaeology and ethnology of Puebla, Mexico. Ted's accounts of his travels and research in Mexico told not only of what incredible adventures he had, but of what kind of person he was. He took life the way it came, and enjoyed every minute of it.

Ted, his wife Mary, and their two young children returned to the United States in 1978, in order to better establish themselves and to allow Ted to perhaps continue his education. They settled in southern California, and Ted began a career in cultural resource management. He worked for various consulting firms in the area before settling in with Ron Douglas at Larry Seeman Associates.

Ted and his family were very close and quite private. Anthropology was clearly important in his life, but his family always came first. He was a husband and a father before all else.

Bruce Jenkins was born on January 13, 1953, in Los Angeles, California. He grew up in Downey, California, where he graduated from high school. In 1972, he entered Ceritos Junior College and received the A.A.

degree (1974) with an emphasis in anthropology. He continued his education at California State University, Fullerton, where he received the B.A. degree (1977). Bruce was working toward a graduate degree at CSUF, after having briefly attended graduate classes at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. Bruce also attended field school at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff (1976). He was a good student (Dean's Honor List, 1973 and 1976), and was active in student organizations (Treasurer – Archaeological Research Facility CSUF; Vice President – CSUF Anthropology Students Association).

Bruce was active in the Lake Mojave Archaeological Project and had intended using data gathered from the project for his Master's thesis. He was also interested in Southwestern and Sierran archaeology with particular emphasis in lithic analysis, post-depositional processes and their effects on the archaeological record, and petroglyph interpretation.

Bruce's brief professional archaeological career was focused primarily in the southern California region where he found employment with several cultural resource management firms. He also worked one summer for Archaeological Research Associates, Inc., Tucson, Arizona, and as a summer seasonal employee for the United States Forest Service (Sequoia National Forest). Upon completion of the Grider Creek project, Bruce was to have gone on to employment in the Tahoe National Forest. Bruce was a quiet fellow; few people really knew him well. He was a dedicated scholar who preferred archaeological pursuits to virtually every other activity.

The written contributions of Ron, Ted, and Bruce to the field of anthropology are relatively few. Ron and Ted had several papers published; Bruce was working toward his first publication. They were very young men just beginning their careers. Clearly they could have done just about anything they

wanted. There was so much they could have and should have contributed, so many things that they were going to do.

Tragedies like this are always difficult to understand. For those of us who knew these men, it is simply incomprehensible. Young, healthy people in the prime of life are just not supposed to die.

Of these fellows, Ron Douglas was especially close to me. He was my best friend. He was best man in my wedding this summer, and that was the last time I saw him. I will miss him dearly.

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