

Steven L. Bates, Ph.D

1939 – June 30, 2023



Steven Bates

Steven Latimer Bates passed away on June 30, 2023, at Presbyterian Homes in Evanston, Illinois. He was 83 years old. Steve was born in Midland, Texas, and grew up in New Mexico, New Jersey, Wyoming, and Ohio (his father was a geologist). From Columbus North High School in Ohio Steve went to Dartmouth, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a major in German. He subsequently changed his field of study and earned an M.A. in English literature from the University of Minnesota and then a Ph.D. in English literature from Princeton Univ.

He was awarded a Fulbright grant for study in England. Steve's long and happy academic career included teaching in the English department at UCLA and serving as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University.

Survivors include Steve's sister Helen Bates Palmer of Shorewood, Minnesota, and his niece Emily French and her husband Hoach and their two children, Cady and Elijah, of Portage, Michigan. Steve was beloved by his family, including his brother-in-law, Dean Palmer, who died March 8 of this year.

Donations in Steve's honor may be made to support the ACLU or the undergraduate financial aid program at the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern.