

Bruce Edward Lacoss

Died: December 27, 2000

Bruce died at his home in Overland Park, Kansas, outside Kansas City, on Wednesday, December 27, 2000 at the age of 61.

He came to Dartmouth from Newport, Vermont, where he had gone to high school. He was class president there, class valedictorian, and on the school newspaper and yearbook. He also sang in the glee club, played in the band, was in dramatics, and was on the basketball team.

At Dartmouth he majored in French and played in the marching band his freshman year. His senior year he was treasurer of Le Cercle Francais. He became a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He spent a year abroad in France his junior year and again after Dartmouth.

Upon returning from France, he went to Middlebury College, from which he earned a masters degree in 1963. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he got his law degree in 1965.

Bruce wrote in the 25th Reunion Yearbook in 1986 that “my years at Dartmouth were among the most productive and rewarding of my life.” He wrote that after law school he joined a money center bank in New York, where he worked for the next 16 years — “experiencing five re-locations in the process” — then switched careers in about 1976 to become treasurer of a Midwestern university in the St. Louis area.

Evidently just completing another move, Bruce closed his reflections in 1986 by writing that, “I am hopeful of greater things ahead after passing through a period of searching for direction and meaning in my life. I have a new job, which I really enjoy and for which my work experience and talents are well suited. We have moved to Kansas City as a result and are picking up the pieces of our lives. We think it’s time to see France again after an absence of nearly 16 years.”

Then, reflecting, Bruce wrote, “At this stage of my life, exercise is terribly important. I have been an avid lap swimmer since moving to the Midwest in 1976 and have found this activity to be a terrific emotional outlet.”

He continued, “I have begun to wrestle with the reality of death, the ultimate bummer, prompted by my father’s passing away two years ago after a brief illness. As I look back, I realize to what extent I have inherited many of his attitudes toward aging, work, and death.”

Bruce had two children, Stephen and Vanessa.