



# David Andrew Sloan

MAR 2, 1941 - MAR 4, 2025



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## David Andrew Sloan

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David Sloan passed away on March 4th, 2025 at the age of 84. Raised in Topanga Canyon, California, by his parents Bill and Pearl Sloan and alongside his 2 brothers and 2 sisters, David's quick wit and indisputable intelligence were both a source of pride as well as exasperation for his family. "What to do with Dave?" was apparently a common question and one that eventually placed David as a touring member of the acrobatic troupe "The Amazing Monahans!" Yes, it put him in the Circus which became a lifelong question people would whisper: "Did you know David was once in the Circus?" Circus life was only temporary, however, and David went on to put his intellect to better use graduating with a PhD in American history from UC Santa Barbara. At that point, David's life turned from the sunny beaches of California to the hills, lakes, and rivers of Northwest Arkansas when, in the early 1960s, David joined the faculty of the University of Arkansas's history department. Throughout his 38-year tenure as a professor, David influenced countless minds and left an indelible mark on the department itself. David came to value his chosen community with a particularly enduring love for Beaver Lake and the small cabin he built, by hand, upon the shores of the tiny town of Larue, Arkansas. To know David was to laugh with him, to debate with him, and, for most, to love him. He was a deeply caring father and partner as well as a loyal friend. He will be missed by all that knew him, but in particular by his three children and their spouses, Jennifer Sloan & Nate Belove, Heather Sloan & Matt Champagne, and Drew & Alicia Sloan, his eight grandchildren, Max, Finn, Gus, Ted, Sagely, Mirabelle, Charlie, and Oliver and his devoted partner, Merideth Boswell. We were all lucky to know him and it is with the greatest sadness that our time of goodbye has arrived.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The Ozark Society Endowment Fund by clicking: <https://www.arcf.org/give-online/?fund=Ozark+Society+Endowment> and maybe consider taking a



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hike in David's honor while you're at it. He would have liked to have been able to join you.



## Tribute Wall

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PB

**Patty Besom** posted:

Lots of memories from the 1970's of which David was a big part. Good times. Patty and Bob Besom

May 23 at 8:35 AM

HS

**Heather Sloan** May 23 at 2:01 PM

Thank you, Patty and Bob, from our whole family. Love, Heather (my email: percussionrevolution@gmail.com)

PB

**Patty Besom** posted:

Lots of great memories from the 1970's that David was a part of. Good times. Patty and Bob Besom

May 23 at 8:24 AM

BJ

**Ben Johnson** posted:

David Sloan continually impressed and moved me during my doctoral studies in the 1980s by his congenial regard for his students, the breadth of his extraordinary intellect, and a teaching style bent toward inspiring curiosity and excellence. Even after I graduated, he provided welcomed encouragement as well as perceptive assessment of work I had published. My deepest condolences to his family. David was a memorable figure for so many. Ben Johnson

March 27 at 4:14 PM

HS

**Heather Sloan** May 23 at 2:02 PM

A belated thank you for your lovely comments about Dad, Ben. We really appreciate you taking the time to remember him here.



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**Steve Gunter** posted:

Dr David Sloan was my magnificent professor of colonial American history. I can see him even now in my mind's eye-cool hair, great speaking style, and someone who cared about the welfare of 24 year old scared to death of the big campus history grad students like me. I wish I could tell each family member what he meant to me

March 20 at 1:59 PM



**Heather Sloan** May 23 at 2:04 PM

Thank you so much, Steve! What a great thing for us to know that he made a difference in students' lives. He really did care!



**Pattie Osborne** posted:

Our deepest sympathy to David's family and his dear friend Meredith. Rick and Pattie Osborne

March 17 at 10:06 AM



**Heather Sloan** March 20 at 9:44 AM

Thank you so much!



## Tribute Wall

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**Richard Selakovich** posted:

I was asked to play intramural sports with History Department in 1972. I had just transferred from Tulane University. One of the professors that I was introduced to Dr. David Sloan. His athleticism was as great as his ability to discuss and teach history. I was able to meet and become friendly with the majority of the department through sports. I soon learned that the whole department was full very talented men and women. Dr. Sloan was always easy to approach with questions concerning history but also many other topics. Additionally, I meet many other professors and was accepted as a friend even though I was a student. I was shocked by their attitude towards me. I never received that type of friendship at Tulane or the accounting department a few years later. Dr. Sloan was accepting me as a friend not just a student. His friendship never changed. Other professors also helped in this new type of friendship. Drs. Edward's, Kennedy and many others became more than mentors. I truly valued their friendship outside of the classroom. David and Dr. Edward's both really pushed me to be a better student by their friendship with me. This allowed me to have real relationships with many other professors in the History Department but other departments. I have great memories of my time in Fayetteville because of Dr. David Sloan. He was a wonderful human being and will be missed by all those he touched.

March 16 at 7:32 AM



**Heather Sloan** March 20 at 9:45 AM

What a lovely memory. Thank you for sharing it. It means a lot.



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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