



Bradford H Hadley

April 21, 1952 - August 10, 2015

South Berwick, ME – Bradford Herbert Hadley, 63, of South Berwick and former longtime resident of Rye, NH, died Monday, August 10, 2015 at Wentworth-Douglas Hospital in Dover, NH surrounded by his loving family.

Brad was born April 21, 1952 in Portsmouth, NH, a son of the late Otis N. and Ruth (Philbrick) Hadley.

He was raised in Rye Beach, NH and spent much of his youth at the Rye Beach Motel which his mother owned and operated for many years. Brad graduated from Portsmouth High School with the Class of 1970 and married the love of his life, and wife of over 40 years, Mary Patricia (White) Hadley of Hampton, NH. He earned a double Bachelor's Degree in Computer Technology and English from Florida International University. Brad and Mary lived in Kingston, NY and Raleigh, NC, where he had a successful career with IBM spanning 35 years. In 2007 they returned to New England and settled in South Berwick, ME. After his retirement Brad became a self-employed website designer working out of his home.

Brad was a talented musician, especially enjoyed playing the guitar and was a member of several music groups over the years.

In addition to Mary, his devoted and loving wife, Brad is survived by his daughter, Alyson K. Hadley and her husband, Shane Willcox of Raleigh, NC; his brother, Guy Hadley and his wife Jessie of Orlando, FL; his sister, Sharon Gross and her husband, David of York, ME and his niece, Amanda Bouchard and family, also of York.

A Graveside service will be held at 3 PM on Monday, August 17, 2015 at the family plot in Rye Central Cemetery, followed by a celebration of Brad's life at "Madre's Cottage", 95 Old Beach Rd, in Rye Beach. In lieu of flowers the family respectfully suggests donations be made to the Seacoast Cancer Center at Wentworth Douglas Hospital, Dover, NH.

Events

AUG **Graveside Service** 03:00PM

17

Central Cemetery

20 Central Road, Rye, NH, US

AUG **Celebration of Life** 03:45PM

17

Madre Cottage

95 Old Beach Road, Rye Beach, NH, US, 03871

Comments



“ Shari - I am so sorry to hear of Brad's passing. May he rest in eternal peace. Much love and healing thoughts to you and your family. Pam Irving

Pam Irving - August 28, 2015 at 11:46 AM



“ All of the Hadley's at the Hadley reunion in Salem, Oregon enjoyed the music Guy and Brad put together on a DVD for the reunion. So good to be able to have heard them play together. We had a great time singing along with their lead.
Sandy Hadley Sumner
Molalla, OR

Sandra Sumner - August 26, 2015 at 05:03 PM



“ To the entire family, I am honored to have met Brad and spent several hours preparing my website. What a loyal and loving husband, father, brother, son and uncle...as he shined sharing story after story of his cherished family. Brad will forever live in my heart and memories as "one of the good ones".

Denise Jacobsohn - August 17, 2015 at 09:31 AM



“ Pat, Alyson, and family, love you guys with all my heart. Got me through tough times. I have great memories of our times in Kingston and Raleigh. Brad was a big help in my music. When I was asked to sing the National Anthem, he helped me find the right note to start on. Still use that same note today, even if it's so low no one really hears it. "Remember, Debbie, no ones going to remember that first note but they sure will if you miss that last one." Simple wisdom and gentle patience, thank you, Brad.

Debbie Johnson - August 16, 2015 at 11:42 PM



“ Brad was easily the most pleasant person (and one of the smartest) I ever worked with at IBM and we worked together in the same department for at least several years. What a man! I lost touch a number of years ago but you never forget someone like Brad. I send my sincere condolences to his family.

Lowell Thing
Kingston, NY

Lowell Thing - August 15, 2015 at 10:54 AM



“ Brad always had a helpful suggestion for every coworker and a kind word to say to everyone. He made my years at IBM Kingston better and happier.

My condolences to his family who will surely miss him.

Susan King

Susan King - August 15, 2015 at 08:58 AM



“ Dear Pat, Alyson and family,
For the past dozen years or so, Brad has been one of my closest friends. We worked closely on family genealogy even though we were only 7th cousins. (We usually referred to each other as 007 when we talked). We often spent 1/2 hour or so on the phone usually about once a week. We developed the Hadley DNA genealogy project together about 10 years ago where Brad took the lead. We also worked on developing and running 6 different international Hadley reunions around New England.

Brad was solid in his understanding of genealogy and had a quiet gift of assurance and thoughtfulness with all with whom he had contact. He always had a well structured mind in keeping us both on track with our own and shared genealogical endeavors. He was a true friend to both myself and my wife Anita. He will be missed more than I can possibly express. I love you Brad and we will meet again my friend.
Jim (and Anita too) Hadley

James R Hadley - August 14, 2015 at 08:46 PM



“ Dear Pat, Alyson and family, Although I have not seen Brad in more years than I care to mention, he always pops into my memories when reminiscing about our early years in "Pubs" at IBM. Brad was one of the great characters in that department - bright, kind, knowledgeable - and with a great sense of humor. The world is a better place with people like Brad; I'm very sorry to learn that he has gone. I hope many good memories will help you during this sad time. Ginny Killfoile (formerly Formel)

Ginny Killfoile - August 14, 2015 at 03:36 PM



“ I have many fond memories of hanging out with your family in high school. Brad was always funny, gentle and kind to us kids. I thought it was so cool that your dad had a motorcycle and was good with computers! I hope you find comfort in the memories and knowing that all of us are keeping you close in our thoughts during this difficult time.

Katherine Kershaw - August 14, 2015 at 08:32 AM



“ As a teenager I met Brad as Alyson's friend... I am so sorry for your loss Alyson- really thinking about you a lot. I know that this past year has been very trying on all of your family and I mean it from the bottom of my heart that I love you and your dad was a special guy to me... I never was quite able to outgrow the nick name "Spike"... The world has lost a wonderful human and for that I am truly sorry... Heather Pulice (or Spike)



Heather Pulice - August 13, 2015 at 02:54 PM



“ Dear Pat, Alyson and Family, Although Brad was battling his own very difficult illness, he was there to give other family members comfort this past year during sad times. He never complained and had a smile for everyone. I treasure the time I spent with Brad in conversation and loved his music! We also thank him for his tireless work on the Baxter genealogy!! He will be greatly missed. XXOO Sally (Pardee) Chapdelaine

sally chapdelaine - August 13, 2015 at 01:30 PM



“ I can echo what Bob Ward, Dave Cornell, and Marianne Ferraro have said. I, too, worked with Brad for several years at IBM in Kingston, NY, first as a peer "pubs planner" and technical writer, and later with Brad as my career manager when I was on an educational leave for my Master's. Brad was my office-mate for several years, when he was called the "far-out" planner and I was the "near-in" planner (which referred to our schedules, but also had humor in the terms). I think Brad coined the term "4:20 crisis" as my phone would always ring with a publishing problem on Fridays at 4:20 p.m. He gave us informal humorous awards, and mine was a cartoon about the "4:20 crisis."

I am thinking of his family and please pass along my condolences. I think Pat will remember me from Kingston but I have not met Alyson. I had the opportunity to e-mail with Brad once in the past few years, and he still had his sense of humor even though he mentioned he was facing cancer treatments. My thoughts are with you at this very difficult time. Please know that Brad made our daily lives at work much richer by his kindness, writing skills, and sense of humor.

Barbara Neumann

Barbara Neumann - August 13, 2015 at 10:55 AM



“ Pat and family,

I can't find the words to tell you how saddened Marianne and I were to learn of Brad's passing. Like others who have written here, I knew Brad as a colleague and manager at IBM in Kingston and Raleigh. He was excellent in all his roles at IBM and I learned a great deal from him. Brad also gave me my first and only impromptu flying lesson when he took me up in a small plane over the Hudson Valley and foolishly invited me to take the controls. Amazingly, we survived that. When I had a house-warming party at my first house, Brad volunteered to cook a Chinese dinner, bringing his own wok and ingredients. Sometime during the cooking process, Brad stepped out of the kitchen to talk to me about something, only to be interrupted by another colleague and friend, Lowell Thing, saying: "Dave, um, Dave, ... your kitchen ... um, seems to be ... um ... on fire". At this point we all noticed the smoke coming from the wok. However, Brad quickly intervened and no harm was done to either the food (which was delicious) or the kitchen. Brad was a good colleague and a better man and friend. Like everyone else who knew him, I will miss him greatly.

David Cornell & Marianne Ferraro

David Cornell - August 13, 2015 at 10:39 AM



“ Pat, Alyson Kate and family,

We are so sorry to hear about Brad. We knew he was fighting hard and sure seemed to try and keep his sense of humor and optimism if for no other reason to help everyone else.

I remember helping him with his homework at FIU so we could hurry up and get wasted playing double pinochle... Viv and I getting married in front of your Christmas tree in Miami, Brad the best man was bare footed as it should be...visiting you guys in Kingston... lobster fest and laughter at Madre's... music and barbecue at Viv's dad's here in Michigan.

Of all the people I have met in my life there is just a handful that most effected me, Brad is one of them. Truly a good and decent man. A lifetime friend.

George and Vivian Kovenich

George Kovenich - August 13, 2015 at 08:03 AM



“ Brad was just a wonderful individual. I worked many years with Brad in Raleigh and we became very close friends. He was very intelligent, funny and just a joy to be around. We worked closely on many things including investing and all things IBM. He will be very missed.

Pat Rombach
patrombach@gmail.com

Pat Rombach - August 12, 2015 at 03:11 PM



“ Dear Pat and Alyson,
Words cannot express how saddened our whole family was to learn of Brad's passing. We haven't seen you all in awhile but have not forgotten our special neighbors of 21 years. Brad was a such a quiet sweet guy with a comical side that we all remember fondly. Brian always said "the guys (boys) in the neighborhood" thought Brad was sooo cool. It appears it was a combination of the hairy chest and the motorcycle. With Jamie and Kim...they just liked being referred to as the "blond bombshells". The Makely's smile when we think of Brad. Always have.
The Makely Family Dan, Vicki, Brian, Jamie, and Kim

Dan and Vicku Makely - August 11, 2015 at 08:09 PM



“ Alyson and Pat, Brad was always so kind to me. He had a way of connecting with us teens and making us feel welcome and loved. I will always remember him as a fellow lover of rock music and as a friend. Thinking of you both and sending my love, Hilary

Hilary Stoddard - August 11, 2015 at 07:21 PM



“ MY MEMORIES OF THE BRADLEY HADLEY

I know, I know... Bradley wasn't his real first name, but that's what I called him... initially to his annoyance but later... well I guess he just got used to it.

I interviewed Bradley... Brad... for a job at IBM many, many years ago. He had a resume as rare as gold-plated hens teeth with his dual degrees in English and Computer Science. I recommended that we immediately hire him to be an Information Developer, a kind of high-powered technical writer who understood programming... which we did. He eventually forgave me but that was years later.

He was assigned to my department and sent off to Basic Programmer Training where his progress would be monitored by a temporary manager Mr. Bippity Bob Beaman. Ole Bippity Bob was a stickler for detail and a little short on the big picture. In other words, he was an excellent IBM first line manager. I didn't think that Brad needed to go to Basic Programmer Training as he was already an experienced programmer, but rules is rules at the IBM and so off he went to Basic Programmer Training and the ever watchful myopic eyes of the Bippity One.

After a week or so the Bippity One calls me and says that Brad wasn't doing well in programming school and we should consider letting him go. He couldn't even get his first program to run. I was shocked for the first program in Basic Programmer Training was a simple Fahrenheit to Celsius conversion that most completed in a computer run or two. I called Brad in and asked him to bring me his programming documentation. I reviewed his work and was again shocked for Brad had written a complex program with an interface, error recovery routines and all the other stuff that a real user program would contain.

The Bippity One was adamant and wanted us to "release" Brad. Rules is rules and the Bradley didn't get his program to run... that's a fact Jack! I got pissed and said that if the Bippity One removed Brad from programming school, I'd immediately promote him. The Bippity One backed down and Brad's career was on again albeit on a very squishy footing.

I gave Brad the following advice as he progressed through Basic Programmer Training: act dumb... dumber than a door knob. Turns out he was very good at it... a natural. Boy could he act dumb. He acted so dumb that even Bippity Bob Beaman thought he was a good employee... and on this foundation Brad built his career at IBM.

Life takes strange turns. I worked with Brad for many years and we became very good friends. But we were IBM friends. I never met his family and I doubt they know much about me. As he years went by, Brad and I lost contact and then last year somehow we hooked up again. I was being treated for cancer... prostate cancer... and he was being treated for cancer also. We traded emails and a phone calls. I sent him some Torano cigars and he sent some of his favorites, also Toranos... our friendship renewed with the puff of a cigar.

Brad was a faithful friend and straight shooter with the courage of a Lion. All the years I worked with him, he told me what I needed to hear and not what I wanted to hear... and he knew how to laugh and how to get others to laugh. I will greatly miss him.

Bob Ward
be498ar@earthlink.net

Bob Ward - August 11, 2015 at 07:15 PM



“ Pat, we always knew a good time was to be had when we heard those motorcycles on Heatherbrook Circle! Sending you and yours love and prayers, Nan & Craig Maples

nan maples - August 11, 2015 at 05:35 PM