



David Lynn Adamson

March 19, 1953 - September 3, 2021

David Lynn Adamson, age 68 of Snellville, GA, passed away on Friday, September 3, 2021.

There are no services planned at this time.

Condolences may be sent or viewed at <http://www.wagesfuneralhome.com>. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Comments



“ David Adamson was my friend. We worked together at Plantation Pipe Line Company for over 20 years. You don't work that long with someone unless they become your friend, or maybe more than a friend - family. I've spent more time working with David than I have spent with my own family.

David did not have a degree in Computer Science and was self-taught over the years before I had even met him. He was one of the smartest people that I've ever known. He had a photographic memory, or at least very close to one. He had intimate knowledge of how things worked on the pipeline and in its' tank farms. This enabled him to become extremely successful in his career as a SCADA programmer. His code is still in use and it is an invaluable resource to Kinder Morgan, the current operator of the pipeline.

To become a SCADA programmer you have to understand liquid hydraulics, field level automation equipment, pipeline scheduling, pumps, motors, valves, measurement, and ticketing. David eventually knew it all. He was aided by Ronnie Pratt who wrote the original pipeline scheduling system in assembly language on the Data General platform. Ronnie filled in the cracks that David needed in becoming a programmer and understanding how scheduling and automation could work together and complement each other.

David's language of choice was FORTRAN. He wrote thousands of programs and subroutines that eventually became part of the pipeline SCADA system. He designed processes that did not previously exist and actually wrote FORTRAN programs to implement them. David could do binary and hexadecimal arithmetic in his head. His brain was like a computer. He did amazing things almost daily.

I had worked with David since 1997 and eventually I became his trainee, or "Probie", as he used to call me. About 10 years before his retirement, he began training me as his replacement. Not because he was asked or ordered to; he did it so that his SCADA system would continue to operate the pipeline. He convinced me to stay with Kinder Morgan and kept me from quitting. He would give me a "gib slap" on the back of my head when I made a mistake. I did not like that at the time but now I sure wish he was here to do that again. You see, all the folks he worked with were his friends – the controllers, the engineers, the schedulers, etc. He cared very much about them as people, part of his extended family.

David enjoyed fishing in the Florida Everglades, Chokoloskee to be exact. He was such an important employee that he had to carry a satellite phone with him on the trips. He loved fishing and drinking and having a good time. He used to tell us all stories about fishing in the Everglades with his father on a houseboat.

David spent a lot of time in his garage. He smoked a cigarette or two but did not want his home to smell like that. One time, in the dark, he was walking through his garage and tripped over something on the floor. He fell head first into a toolbox full of tools. When he came to work the next day he looked like he had been in the worst bar fight you ever saw. We used to tease him and say that his wife Linda beat the crap out of him. And that is how she got the nickname "ToolBox".

Just like Ronnie Pratt, David was a true legend. David, you did good!

To all of David and Linda's families – I know it hurts, as it is hurting me right now. My deepest sympathies to everyone.

Scott

Scott Alka - September 06 at 02:18 PM