



TOHONO O'ODHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Tohono O'odham Community College To Memorialize Beloved Instructor Dr. Michael Brady In Service on October 8, 2009

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Sells, AZ—Students and colleagues of Dr. Michael Brady, an Adjunct Instructor at Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC), are grieving the loss of their beloved teacher and friend, who died last month. The College will hold a memorial service for Dr. Brady on the TOCC Main Campus starting at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2009. The campus is located behind the middle school at mile marker 115.5 north, just off Arizona Highway 86. TOCC President Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon says, *"As we at the College mourn the passing of Michael Brady, our dedicated professor and good friend, our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and all who knew him. We invite you to join us at the College for a ceremony to remember Dr. Brady and together commemorate his life."*

Dr. Brady taught history, law, political science, and public health courses at Tohono O'odham Community College since 2003. Students loved the stories he told, both personal anecdotes and thought-provoking narratives that illustrated his teaching points. Colleagues noticed his community service, his modesty, his zest for life, and even his friendliness to the stray dogs on campus. Dr. Karen Wyndham, a TOCC faculty member who knew him well, said, *"Dr. Brady was full of life. I think we are all amazed and humbled as we continue to discover the many different facets of his life."* As an instructor, Dr. Brady introduced new subjects to the College, including a political science course on Understanding Terrorism and another timely course called Public Health Preparedness. In addition to teaching, he served as an occasional guest lecturer both in the College and around the Tohono O'odham Nation on legal issues, emergency preparedness, and the effect of government structures on art and literature. Many in the community regarded Dr. Brady as someone to whom they could turn to for information and advice.

Michael Brady was born on November 30, 1948 in New York City. He grew up in England, where his mother was born, and in Tucson, Arizona, where he attended St. Joseph Catholic School and Salpointe Catholic High School. After high school, he served in the United States Marines Corps in Vietnam for two tours of duty, reaching the rank of sergeant. He received two Purple Hearts and was proud of his service to his country. Michael attended college and graduated from the University of Arizona and Oklahoma City University School of Law. Eventually he received a postgraduate degree from the University of San Diego School of Law. Michael practiced law in Tucson as a defense attorney and later in Micronesia in the western Pacific.

Michael left the legal practice to study at the University of Oxford for three years, and afterwards he earned his Ph.D. from Queen's University of Belfast. His doctoral thesis, published in 1997, is titled *International Law and National Legislation: Their Relations to Human Rights and the Protection of Minorities*. Michael lived in Belfast during the waning years of the Troubles, the three decades of violence over the autonomy and constitutional status of Northern Ireland that ended with ceasefires and an active political process in the mid- and late 1990s. While in Belfast, Michael met his wife, Suzanne, who returned to Tucson with him, where she has a career as a pharmacist.

Dr. Brady was a professor of history and international law. He taught in many places, including Russia. Besides teaching at TOCC, he also taught business and pharmacy technology at the East Campus of Pima Community College.

Dr. Brady, whom his family calls Mike, was a certified parachute jumper and deep-sea diver. In September 2009, he went on a trip to Hawai'i. While scuba diving off the Waianae Coast of Oahu Island on September 10, Mike experienced trouble undersea and died later that day. He was sixty years old.

Mike Brady is preceded in death by his father, James Benedict Brady, and is survived by his mother Doris (Dottie) Atkinson Brady. He is also survived by his wife, Suzanne Crawford Brady, and by his siblings Patricia Gartrell, Terrance Brady, Shon Brady, Jacky Start, and James Brady. The family held a memorial service for Mike last Saturday at Bring Funeral Home in Tucson. The program for that service mentioned, *"Everyone will remember Mike for his dry English wit, especially when it came to teasing his mum, Dottie and entertaining family members."* In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society or to the Vietnam Veterans of America. Please contact the Tohono O'odham Community College President's Office at (520) 383-0015 for more information.

The Tohono O'odham Nation chartered and established Tohono O'odham Community College in 1998 to increase access to higher education for its members and to promote economic self-sufficiency. The Tohono O'odham Nation, located west of Tucson and east of Ajo, has around 28,800 members and a land base of 2.8 million acres (4,460 square miles, about the size of Connecticut). The Nation's website is www.tonation-nsn.gov. TOCC offers classes at sites across the Tohono O'odham Nation, in Tucson, and online. To learn more, please visit the College's website at www.tocc.cc.az.us.

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