

IN MEMORIAM

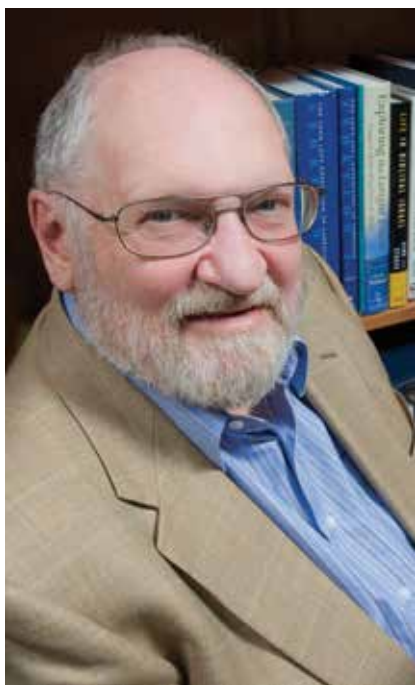
ROBERT MCCORMICK ADAMS was a towering figure of Near Eastern archaeology and a pioneer of landscape archaeology methods, who left a deep imprint on the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago. He received both his bachelor and doctorate degrees from Chicago, and served on the faculty of the OI, NELC, and Anthropology from 1955 to 1984. During that time he was named the Harold H. Swift Distinguished Service Professor (1975–84), served as director of the OI (1966–68 and 1981–83) and dean of the Division of Social Sciences (1970–74), before being appointed provost (1982–84). Bob left the University to become the ninth secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (1984–94). There is a brief obituary on the Smithsonian website (<https://siarchives.si.edu/history/robert-mccormick-adams>).



One of the Oriental Institute's former students, **EUGENE CRUZ-URIBE**, passed away on March 12, 2018. Eugene Cruz-Uribe received both his BA and PhD in Egyptology from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. His dissertation, "Saite and Persian Demotic Cattle Documents and Their Use in the Legal System in Ancient Egypt," was completed in 1983 and later published as a monograph in 1985. He held a variety of museum and university faculty positions before becoming professor of history at Indiana University East in Richmond, Indiana, in 2013. In May 2017, he retired from his position but continued his scholarly studies and publications. He worked extensively in Egypt, and his scholarly contribution to the field survives in the form of numerous articles and monographs, including particularly his work on Demotic graffiti

published in the 1988 volume *Hibis Temple Project*, volume 1: *Translations, Commentary, Discussion, and Sign-List*, 1995; *Hibis Temple Project*, volume 2: *The Demotic Graffiti of Gebel Teir*, 2008; *Hibis Temple Project*, volume 3: *The Graffiti from the Temple Precinct*, and the 2016 *The Demotic Graffiti from the Temple of Isis on Philae Island*. He was also the editor for several years of the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*. Eugene Cruz-Uribe is fondly remembered here at the OI as a fun and inspiring colleague who will be greatly missed.

NANCY GERSON was a Life Member of the Advisory Council (formerly Visiting Committee) at the Oriental Institute and a committed volunteer for decades, beloved wife of Isak Gerson. Nancy grew up with the Oriental Institute. She lived nearby on 58th Street for years, and from the time the Museum opened, she was a regular visitor. Nancy graduated from the University of Chicago with an AM in human development. She later studied anthropology at Northwestern University and taught non-Western civilization and psychology to high school students. Nancy was among the first docents at the Oriental Institute and then went on to serve as a docent with the Field Museum. Nancy and her husband Isak, who is also a Life Member of the OI Advisory Council, first became involved with the OI when Gustavus Swift was director of the Museum in the 1970s. Nancy was also on the Visiting Committee of the Music Department at the University of Chicago, and was a member of the Women's Boards of the University of Chicago, the Art Institute, and the Field Museum. Her many contributions to the Oriental Institute, the University of Chicago, and other notable nonprofit institutions in Chicago were greatly valued and appreciated. She will be missed.



LAWRENCE ("LARRY") E. STAGER, formerly a professor of archaeology in the Oriental Institute and a leading figure in the archaeology of ancient Israel and the Levant, passed away on December 29, 2017, at his home in Concord, Massachusetts. Larry was born on January 5, 1943, in Kenton, Ohio, county seat of rural Hardin County in the western part of the state. He grew up on a farm and was the first of his family to attend college, enrolling at Harvard in 1961, where he was introduced to biblical archaeology by leading scholars of the subject and graduated with a BA magna cum laude in 1965. He continued his studies at Harvard under the tutelage of the noted scholars G. Ernest Wright and Frank Moore Cross, among others, earning his MA in 1972 and his PhD ("with distinction") in 1975. From Harvard, Larry came to the Oriental Institute, first as an instructor (1973–74) and then as assistant professor (1974–76), associate professor (1976–85), and full professor (1985–86) of Syro-Palestinian archaeology. In 1986, he returned to Harvard University, to an endowed chair, as the inaugural Dorot Professor of the Archaeology of Israel and Director of the Harvard Semitic Museum. In 1970 he married Susan J. Simmons, who survives him, as do his children Jennifer and David.

Since his student days in the 1960s, and well into his retirement, Larry was active in archaeological fieldwork in the Mediterranean region, digging every summer at one site or another. From 1966 to 1971 he served as an area supervisor at Tel Gezer, the leading American project in Israel at that time.

From 1970 to 1973, he was a field supervisor at Tell el-Hesi in southern Israel while also conducting a survey of ancient agricultural terraces in the highlands (1972–73) and a survey and soundings in the Buqê'ah Valley in the Judean wilderness (1972) to gather data for his doctoral dissertation. From 1974 to 1980 he was the co-principal investigator (with Anita Walker) of the American Expedition to Idalion, Cyprus, serving as field director there from 1971 to 1974. He then turned his attention farther west, directing the Punic Project at Carthage in Tunisia on behalf of the Oriental Institute, from 1975 to 1980, where he excavated the *tophet* — a burial precinct in which was found evidence of child sacrifice. In 1985, he initiated the long-running and large-scale Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon in Israel, which trained generations of students and ended in 2016 after thirty seasons of annual fieldwork. In addition to excavation reports, Larry was the author of numerous journal articles on a wide range of topics and was co-author (with Philip J. King) of *Life in Biblical Israel*. But beyond his publications, Larry's intellectual acuity and creativity, and his outgoing personality, made an indelible impression on those who knew him. He will be greatly missed by his many friends, colleagues, and former students.
