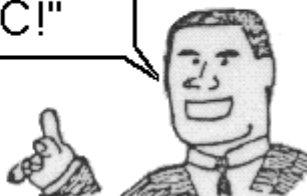


Like a number of others, I benefitted from Rod's help and advice in teaching matters soon after coming to Davis, and continuing over the years. Rod was generous in sharing notes and problems (with solutions!) and perspectives for courses he had taught himself. In teaching undergrad quantum mechanics, for example, he liked to motivate students by presenting a notice he found for "Bob's School of Quantum Mechanics", (which the students of course renamed Rod's School of Quantum Mechanics):

"In just 38 months, you can earn big PROFIT\$ as a fully trained QUANTUM MECHANIC!"

Learn secrets of QUANTUM MECHANICS in your own home, in your spare time, without quitting your present job!



In addition to riches, the successful quantum mechanic was also promised rewards of a gustatory nature ("Quantum mechanics eat steak!"). The full announcement can be found on the web at: <http://www.chemteam.info/Humor/Bob-School-Quantum-Mech.html>. Since he had taught Math Methods many times, I also turned to Rod for help with calculations I needed to do in connection with research, and he was always able to offer a suggestion.

I valued our lunch time conversations in which Rod would recount, usually in great detail, his sojourns to Yosemite, including experiences with rattlesnakes and bears. On one visit, he had packed a can of Beany Weenies for sustenance while hiking, intending to pack out his garbage. But after eating the contents of the can, he observed signs of a bear in the vicinity, and worried that carrying the fragrant can might make him bear bait. So he furtively buried the can. It was typical of Rod that he felt so guilty about littering Yosemite that he made a trip weeks or months later to the same spot, exhumed the now less-fragrant can and packed it out. He enjoyed Death Valley and interestingly, the sights of the Las Vegas strip almost as much. I also found his recommendations for restaurants valuable. He could remember the details of meals eaten months or even years ago, down to the ingredients of seasonings and sauces. He was an enthusiastic opera buff, particularly Verdi and Wagner, mostly viewed from the standing room at the rear of the San Francisco Opera house. Rod was enormously proud of his three children, and spoke often of their accomplishments.

I will miss his cheerful encouragement when he would stroll past my office as he roamed the halls of the physics department.