

# Wade Jacoby:

## A Tribute to the Master Teacher



BY  
BAYLIE DUCE

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Jacoby was born on March 15, 1964 in Palmer, Alaska. He attended BYU on an academic scholarship but was also recognized for his athletic abilities, playing backup infielder for the baseball team and receiver on the football team. His colleagues have described him as “the least nerdy political scientist ever.”

During his undergraduate career, Jacoby participated in a life-changing study abroad in London, where he met his wife Kindra Nelson and discovered another love: European politics. After graduating from BYU in 1987 with a BA in European studies, he returned to Europe as a Fulbright Scholar.

Jacoby continued his education and earned a PhD in political science at MIT in 1996. He began his academic career as an assistant professor at Grinnell College, where he taught for five years. In 2000, Jacoby returned to BYU as an associate professor of political science. During his time as a

faculty member, he secured a Title VI grant and founded BYU’s Center for the Study of Europe. He led many study abroad programs to London and directed the Washington Seminar in Washington, DC. Jacoby was an accomplished scholar specializing in European politics.



Following his passing, Abby Woodfield, a student and teaching assistant of Jacoby, helped organize a student-led memorial service. Abby admired the fact that Jacoby empowered his students to become not only better writers but better people. Abby said, “As a TA of his, we were grading a particularly horrible essay when he suddenly put down the paper and said, ‘Sometimes you just have

to assume good will.” Abby added, “This is how Jacoby lived his life: he assumed good will of everyone.”

Just two days after Jacoby’s passing, political science colleague and friend Professor Darren Hawkins sat in Jacoby’s capstone seminar and asked students for memories. The common theme was “He cared about me as a person, demanded much of me, and inspired me to do better.” Hawkins said, “I had intended to help fill his shoes but realized that it was utterly hopeless. Jacoby was a master teacher; the rest of us are poor apprentices.”

Hawkins said he was stunned while talking to colleagues and friends of Jacoby around the world in the couple of weeks after his death. “They all care about him as deeply as I and feel he was a best friend. I have no idea how someone can have dozens of best friends, but Jacoby managed it.”

Jacoby had a positive impact academically and personally on the Political Science Department, the university, the academic community, and, most of all, his students. He inspired positive change in everyone he met. Hawkins shared his hope that we can remember him by “assuming good will of everyone.”

### Arnold Harrison Green (1940–2019)

Arnold Harrison Green passed away on July 24, 2019, at age 79. At the time of his passing, Green and his wife, Lanigene Handy, were serving a mission compiling history records in the Middle East. Green earned a bachelor’s degree in American studies from California State University in 1965. He received a scholarship to pursue a master’s degree in history at BYU. He went on to earn a master’s and a PhD in Middle Eastern history from UCLA. Green began his teaching career in 1972 as a visiting professor at the University of Miami. Later, he was appointed to the Department of Arabic Studies at the American University in Cairo, where he also served as the director for Arabic studies. In 1985 he became a faculty member at BYU, teaching history for 24 years. He served as the director at the BYU Center for Near Eastern Studies in Jerusalem and as the chair of the BYU History Department.

### Della Nielson Steineckert (1933–2019)

Della Nielson Steineckert passed away at age 86 on September 24, 2019. She was an influential professor in the Clothing and Textiles Department at BYU. Steineckert graduated from BYU with a degree in home economics. Later, she earned a master of science in education from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado. She went on to earn her PhD from Florida State University and returned to BYU to teach. Steineckert was a professional fashion designer, tailor, and seamstress and coauthored a fitting and pattern alteration textbook. She also founded the Intermountain Sewing and Needle Arts Conference in 1982. She was dedicated to serving others and served a mission in Nauvoo, Illinois.



## MEMORIALS

### William James (Bill) Hamblin (1954–2019)

William James Hamblin passed away on December 10, 2019, at the age of 65. After serving a mission in Italy, Hamblin received a bachelor’s degree in history from BYU. He earned a PhD in Middle Eastern history from the University of Michigan in 1985. He worked as a Middle East intelligence analyst for the United States Department of Defense before joining the history faculty at BYU in 1989. He was recognized as a specialist in Near Eastern history and the Crusades and served as a board member of the Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS). Hamblin especially loved his time teaching at the BYU Jerusalem Center. Hamblin married Loree Peay in 1977, and together they had three children. They later divorced, and he married Laura Behling Schroeder on February 19, 2019.

### Robert L. Gleave (1951–2020)

Robert Lloyd Gleave passed away on March 15, 2020. Gleave was a psychologist and worked at BYU for almost 30 years. He taught in the doctoral program and was a group coordinator for 18 years. His group program was awarded by the American Psychological Association (APA), the first ever Excellence in Group Practice Award. He

served as the president of Division 49 of the APA and the president of the Utah Psychological Association. Gleave received the Karl F. Heiser Presidential Award from the APA for outstanding service on national and state issues. Gleave served in many leadership callings in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and as a missionary in the France Paris Mission. Robert and his wife, Lori Gleave, raised seven children.

### Owen William Cahoon (1937–2018)

Owen W. Cahoon, 80, passed away on February 27, 2018. He received a PhD in education from Pennsylvania State University. He was a professor in the College of Family Living at BYU and prepared students to be preschool and elementary school teachers, authoring several child development textbooks. He served on the Sunday School General Board Child Committee, writing and developing nursery and child curricula. He also served several full-time missions in the southern states, in Des Moines, Iowa, and in both the Provo and St. George Temples. He and his wife, Charlotte, raised five children.

### Randal Day (1948–2017)

Randal DeWayne Day passed away at age 68 on January 17, 2017, while serving as a full-time senior

missionary in the Romania Moldova Mission with his wife, Larri-Lea. Day’s career focused on researching family systems. He graduated with a bachelor’s in speech and hearing sciences, a master’s in child development, and a PhD in family studies from BYU. He also earned a master’s in developmental child psychology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. In 1977 he began teaching at South Dakota State University and later taught at Washington State University before returning to BYU to teach in the School of Family Life in 1999. While at BYU, he served as the director of the Family Studies Center and the Camilla Kimball Research Chair. Day’s scholarship was recognized nationally, and he served on the National Council on Family Relations.

### John Joel Moss (1922–2017)

John Joel Moss, 94, died on March 3, 2017. Moss graduated from Ricks College and then served in the Hawaii Japanese Mission. He was drafted into the army in 1944 and became a master sergeant. After returning home, he graduated from BYU with a bachelor’s degree in 1948 and a master’s degree in sociology with a minor in psychology in 1949. He earned his PhD from the University of North Carolina in 1951. Moss served as the chairman of the Child Development and Family Relations Department at BYU for 10 years. He was recognized as one of five Home Economists of the Year in 1962–1963 and was awarded the Osbourne Award for Distinguished Teaching in the family life field in 1970. He was president of the Family Living Council of Utah County from 1987 to 1990. Moss married Audra Lucile Call in 1948, and together they had six children.

COURTESY JACOBY FAMILY (2)