



RENAISSANCE

Newsletter of the Association for the Development of the Person-Centered Approach

Vol. 29, Spring 2012



Armin and Grace

(Photo provided by Paul Blanchard. Photo credit unknown)

Celebrate the Life of

Obituary

Armin Klein, Jr. died at his home on Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

He had been cared for lovingly by his wife Grace, neighbors, friends and current and former clients who became friends and by home health aides, Steve Nichols and hospice professionals, Lisa Sieg, Karl Sarkozy and Jean Bennett, a volunteer massage therapist. Peter Costello and Sarah Rajotte were his companions with Grace through the ending of his life. He had been a psychotherapist for over sixty years and continued to work with clients throughout his illness.

He was born on May 1, 1928 in Newton, Ma. to Armin Klein, Sr. and Anna Rogovin Klein who, with his sister Brenda White, and his niece Celeste Ann Klein preceded him in death.

He graduated from Princeton University in 1948 and received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1956. He studied with Nicholas Hobbs and with Carl R. Rogers, noted psychologist and originator of the Person-Centered Approach to psychotherapy. Rogers became his life-long mentor and friend.



He came to Rochester, NY in 1957 and joined the faculty of the University of Rochester in Psychology and Psychiatry. He became Chief Psychologist for the new Convalescent Hospital for Children where he remained for seventeen years. He established a private practice in psychotherapy which he maintained in his residence at 15 Arnold Park. His professional life was sustained by his associations in the American Academy of Psychotherapists where he was a lifetime member, the Association for the Development of the Person-

Armin Klein, Jr.

Centered Approach, the International Forum for the Person-Centered Approach and by his colleagues and friends, Gerald Bauman, Nathaniel Raskin, Howard Mele, Sheldon Zitner, from his days at Hampton Institute, Lewis Ward-Baker, Virginia Whitmire and many others. He was a poet and, encouraged by Jean Clark of England, published a collection of his work, Songs of Living, which he generously shared with clients and friends.

He was known for his warmth and generous spirit in navigating life's challenges and his openness and involvement with his clients.

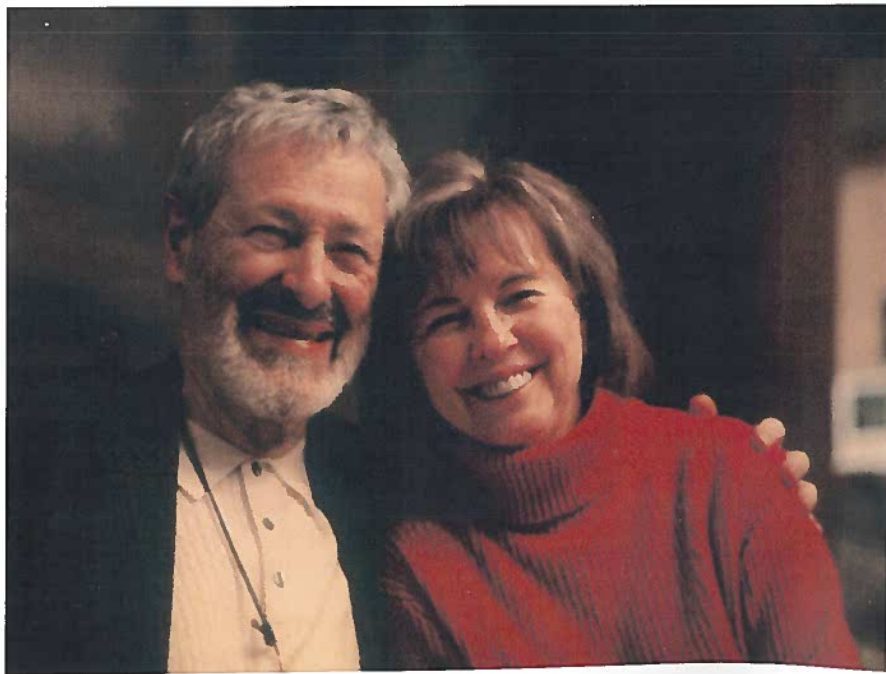
He is survived by his wife, Grace Harlow Klein, whom he met in Mexico at the First International Forum for the Person-Centered Approach, his children and stepchildren, Shakati Singh Khalsa (Upkar Kaur), Meg Klein-Trull (Tim Trull), John Klein (Patti), Lisa Chickadonz (Christine Tanner), Cindy Chickadonz Hunter (Keith) and Thomas Connelly, Jr., his brother, Robert Klein, Muriel Bank Klein, nine grandchildren who were dear to him, his niece and nephews, and many close friends here and internationally.

He loved classical music and was a supporter of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Society for Chamber Music in Rochester. His

life was enriched by his friendship with Vivian and Don Weilerstein and their daughter, Alisa, all classical musicians. Alisa was his goddaughter. They played a memorable concert for him at his 80th birthday celebration in Kilburn Hall in 2008. He was also fascinated by early American history, automobiles, tennis, sailing, wine, dark chocolate and coffee, long before they were in vogue. His children remember many trips together to New Hampshire where he loved to hike on Mt Washington.

A memorial open house will be held on December 10th at 15 Arnold Park from 2-5 pm. Friends are welcome to call and share memories of Armin as hundreds of people have done there over the years of his psychotherapy practice.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Development Office, 108 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604, the Society for Chamber Music in Rochester at P.O. Box 20715 Rochester, NY 14603, URMIC Palliative Care Program, Dr. Timothy Quill, Gift and Donor Records, 300 East River Rd. PO Box 270441 Rochester, NY 14627 and to the Hospice Program of the Visiting Nurse Association, 2180 Empire Blvd., Webster, NY 14580





Tribute to Armin

Grace Harlow Klein
Center for Human Encouragement
Rochester, NY
February 2012

Jim and Susan asked if I would like to write something for Renaissance beyond the obituary I had sent for Armin. While there is more to the story, I want to share this part with you. It seems both simple and profound.

The ending of Armin Klein's life was much as he had lived. He bought a house some thirty-five years ago where he could live and have his practice. When I met him in 1982 at the First International Forum on the Person-Centered Approach in Oaxtepec, Mexico, I learned about his house almost as soon as I met him. It became the "place" for our life together when I moved there in January, 1983, with my sixteen-year-old daughter. As our young adult children left, the house became home to the two of us and the place where our growing family of children, spouses, and nine grandchildren returned for holidays and visits. A never-ending process of restorations transformed Armin's "faded elegant" old house into our beautiful home of warmth and love where clients came, year after year.

For many of those years, I was the mysterious wife who left flowers in the library that was Armin's office. But I was never there as I commuted away to my work. In 1997, I came home to stay. I joined Armin's therapy group and became a co-facilitator. I had the legal work done to make our dream of the Center for Human Encouragement a reality. I began to write poetry, much as Armin had done, to express my feelings and experiences of loss. I explored my interests in photography and painting, publishing my books of poetry and art. Armin continued his work as he had always done and I began slowly to see clients.

Armin's life-threatening illnesses began soon after my return home. We pursued his medical care and he shared his fears in groups at Warm Springs and in his poetry. And our life together continued.

Over these last few years, as his limitations increased, his clients became "our" clients as they accepted me into their individual therapy appointments; all of them were people I

had now known for a long time in the therapy group. Armin was comfortable with the arrangement and the clients were able to continue their therapy uninterrupted and without the added stress of losing their therapist. We were all aware of what was happening. Two clients continued to see Armin alone until the end. One of my clients asked to have Armin join our sessions as it was obvious others were benefitting from his presence. For some of my new clients he became part of our sessions as well - with their consent and comfort. Others I scheduled when the home health aide was with Armin. It was helpful when I had a new client who was a hospice nurse. She was warm and accepting of Armin in her therapy appointments - as if this was a natural occurrence and way to be with him.

I did not know at the time what a tremendous gift to Armin we had worked out. Despite his continuing losses, including the loss of much of his verbal language, Armin continued being with clients until the end of his life. Sometimes he would say something that was "right on" in response to what a client had shared, but more importantly he was a presence of empathy and love, given, received and returned in hugs and kisses at the end of every session. While the therapy continued for our clients, we lived with Armin in his losses and were a part of maintaining his sense of himself, his dignity, his continued connecting with people in the deep openness he had written of - to the end of his life.

I remarked often that there was only love and warmth and empathy in Armin during those years. And as long as I was there, he was secure.

Armin missed only the last week of those shared experiences in group and individual therapy appointments. But on Saturday of that last week, he was in his chair when two clients came to say good-bye. His warmth and empathy for their tears of sadness were obvious.

For those of us privileged to be a part of this unique ending of Armin's life, we each gained in contributing to his life, being in his world, sharing our world with him and grieving together the loss of him. I think, as well, we were a part of something beautiful about the ending of life as a natural part of life. And some of our clients participated, as well, in the memorial service we held for him in our home.

We still feel and comment at times on Armin's continued presence in the library and in our hearts, remembering things about him we had shared.

The photograph Carol Wolter-Gustafson sent to share was taken at the first meeting of ADPCA in Chicago in 1985, two years after we were married. I treasure the relaxed openness of both of us - and a companion photograph of Armin and me with Carl, which has been in our living room all these years. There is one of Carol, as well, whom we met in Oaxtepec and who has been a part of our journey all these years, with Armin at his last ADPCA meeting in Rochester, NY in 2010.

Armin was known for his poetry, which he had written for many years and was published in his book, Songs of Living. His last songs were to be Songs of Loving, not yet published; some of them were put in a booklet by one of the clients in the process I have shared. She called it Armin's Last Songs and shared one of them in the memorial service.

Armin wrote his first poem *to me* soon after we met and shared it as part of our wedding.

Tenderness

What is the deep and overwhelming tenderness?
I thought it our creation.
Or your gift to me - starved as I was.
But that would make us precious - or me unworthy.

I sense our tenderness is a vast, echoing cathedral,
A place of reverence - opening.
A place we two stubborn, determined explorers
Have sought forever.

Driven by unconscious visions
And encouraged by but partial successes,
A place we were unable to enter alone.

Now with you, I am awe-struck
As we walk together in this new world.
Everything is here, even more memories.

Our tenderness is a hallowed place.

It is a way of being.

A way of being that transforms my life.

Our tenderness and love transformed both of our lives. We found our dreams in each other and created a life together that was rich, expansive, loving and shared. The person-centered community was an important part of our

relationships, sustained despite distance and time apart, but always one in which we reconnected with dear friends. For me, it made my world larger, a sense of global community, which I had not known before. We traveled, had fun together, enjoyed adventure and lived a life full of meaning and connection.



Photo by Carol Wolter-Gustafson

Despite my loss of Armin, I am falling in love with him all over again as I rediscover his poems, find new photographs and hear stories I had not heard before. I know how the story ends. I know Armin better, more completely, than anyone ever had. I know his struggles, what was happening in him before I knew him and I was a part of how it came together for him. It was worth every effort it took.

What is not yet clear is how my story continues.

Thank you to those who have written to me, sent cards and shared photographs and your memories of Armin. These have helped in my loss of him.

With love, Grace



Armin, Carl and Grace
Photo by Carol Wolter-Gustafson

Email Reactions to the Passing of Armin

Dear Friends,

I wanted to let you know that Armin Klein died on Tuesday. He had been suffering from both Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease. With Grace Klein's great love and support, he remained at home until his passing. He was beneficent until the end. Armin was a student of Nicholas Hobbs and did his doctoral internship at the Counseling Center at the University of Chicago in the 50s. He practiced person-centered psychotherapy for some 60 years. Armin and Grace met at the First International Forum on the Person-Centered Approach in Mexico in 1982 and were together ever since. Grace chaired the organizing committee for ADPCA's annual conference in Rochester in 2010, where many of you probably saw Armin for the last time. Grace's address is 15 Arnold Park, Rochester, NY 14607. Anyone wishing to make a contribution in honor of Armin may do so to one of the organizations listed below.

I have always admired Armin's attractive mixture of masculinity and elegance. May he rest in peace. Sincerely, Sarton

I don't know who took this picture of Armin and Grace. It is the best photo that I have of him. I don't know what to say, except that I greatly admire how Grace interacted with Armin. Paul B

Thank you so much for letting me know of Armin's passing. He was one of the most gentle spirits I have known. Dottie

Oh, my, this is sad news. I remember being with Armin in a number of person-centered events including the ADPCA conference in Rochester. In that evening after Howie's presentation, I spent a little time with Armin when Grace stepped away for something. I asked him, "how are you?" He replied, "I feel very vulnerable." I was very toughed by that--although he couldn't recognize me and most people at the conference, I felt his presence. I'll look through my photos as soon as I get a chance. Jin

Dear Jeff I am so appreciative that you have forwarded emails from the adpcagroup about Armin. I just found myself in tears to discover that I am included in the obituary, for I have a strong memory of the time I was sharing my poetry with Armin, and persuaded him that his unique poetry about person-centredness was valuable and must be published and made available to us all. And of course I was there at Oaxtapec when Armin met Grace... If you want to forward this to the adpcagroup, please do... With much love Jean Clark (in Norwich England)

Thank you for letting me know. Such a beautiful couple. Caroline

Howie, thanks. Grace and Armin have been most dear friends of ours. I've spent many hours with them in their home and they have stayed with us here in Nottingham.uk. I'll be in touch with Grace. Armin will be sorely missed. William Hallidie Smith Jenny Bell



Armin at Warm Springs. (Photo provided by Sarton Weinraub)

A massive loss to our community. I will cherish my memories of him. Jere

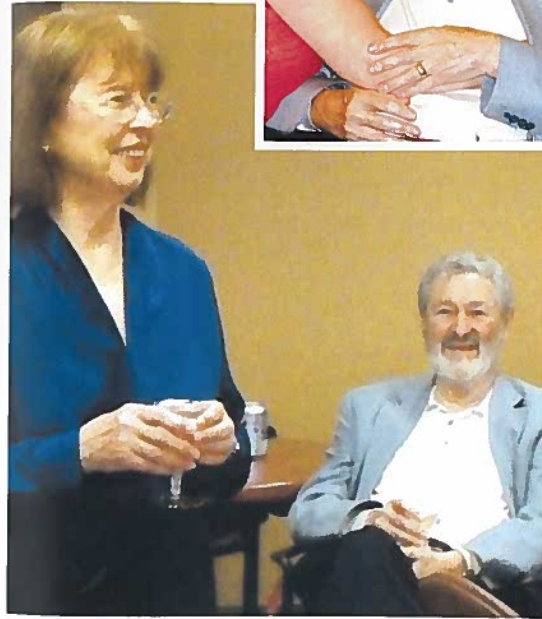
Leslie told me on Thursday, before I saw the announcement. I am very sorry, especially for Grace. What I enjoyed most about Armin was his dry sense of humor. I feel lucky that I got to make his acquaintance, and to see a real couple other. Amanda

I typically don't say much on this list serve but I feel compelled to say this. I met Armin in 2005 at my first ADPCA conference. He couldn't hear a lick unless you were either yelling across the room or right in front of his face. I had the honor of speaking with him for the first time then and I must say, he was one of the warmest, kindest, caring, and most gentle men I've ever met. His smile is irreplaceable and is burned in my mind and my heart today just as he gave it to me for the first time. I feel very glad that I had the chance to talk to him. Although it was short, it was meaningful. I will miss him. With this in mind, I would like to suggest that ADPCA name a scholarship in Arumin's memory. What I was specifically thinking of was a scholarship fund for people interested in coming to the annual conference with a financial need. Please, people, don't chop my head off. It's just an idea that was on my heart. Armin, you are loved, appreciated, and will be greatly missed. Yvette



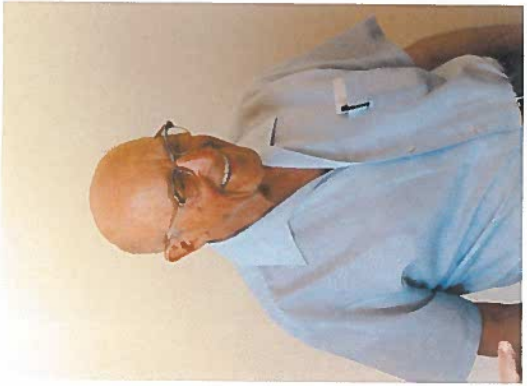


Armin at 2010 ADPCA conference. (Photos by Tiane Graziottin and Jin Wu).





Photos by Carol Wolter-Gustafson





Association for the Development of the Person-Centered Approach

ANNUAL MEETING

ADPCA 2012 Savannah, GA

July 11-15, 2012

Coastal Georgia Center – in Savannah's Landmark Historic District

Come and experience historic Savannah, Georgia. From sweet tea to grits and seafood, Savannah is known as the Hostess City of the South. Founded by the English General Oglethorpe in 1733, it is located on the Savannah River just 18 miles from the Atlantic Ocean.



Come and discover what ADPCA means to you.

If you are interested in presenting, volunteering, or if you have any questions about registration, please contact the organizing committee's email address which is adpca2012.savannah@gmail.com. Please see the welcome letter for information about accommodations and directions for completing the registration form.

Savannah Conference Organizing Committee

This year's conference will offer a variety of workshops, presentations, large group meetings, small group meetings, and community meetings. As in past years, we will have a business meeting and we are currently soliciting agenda items. The conference registration form's reverse side has space for agenda items to be listed.

XII INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR THE PERSON-CENTERED APPROACH

X BRAZILIAN FORUM FOR THE PERSON-CENTERED APPROACH

MAY 26 to JUNE 1, 2013

PCA2013 – PRAIA DO CUMBUCO – BRAZIL

Dear colleagues and friends,

At the beginning of this year of 2012 we want to inform you that we continue working with great care for the XII International Forum for Person Centered Approach and the X Brazilian Forum for Person Centered Approach, which will be held jointly from May 26th to June 1st, 2013, in Ceará, Brazil.

And we have news! We have changed the event's place to another hotel on a beach closer to Fortaleza that offers more comfort and lower costs. Located in the middle of the white dunes of Cumbuco Beach, there is the Hotel Vila Gale Cumbuco, a new resort, which offers all the conditions we need for a beautiful forum to take place. The hotel is about 25 km from Fortaleza, on the West Coast, a beautiful beach.

Soon we will be providing the Forum's site, with more precise information about registration, fees, and other information. But whoever wants to check out the hotel, here is the website: <http://www.vilagale.pt>

In addition to encouraging everyone to bring their contributions in the form of papers or other forms of expression, as it happens in the tradition of the Forums, our scientific committee is defining the indexed Brazilian journal to publish a special volume with papers presented at the Forum (in English, Spanish and Portuguese) for those who are interested in publishing their work into the scientific format. We remind you that the Forum's theme will be "contemporary developments of Carl Rogers' thought".

Our organizing committee, consisting of a diversity of viewpoints on the Person Centered Approach, which features our long history of humanistic psychology in Ceará, Brazil, focuses on the rescue of the Person Centered Approach history regarding its production of knowledge. With this view, our big Forum honors John Keith Wood, collaborator and friend of Carl Rogers and dear master, pioneer of humanistic psychology.

We, the organizing committee of the XII International Forum for Person Centered Approach and X Brazilian Forum for the Person Centered Approach, are waiting for you at Cumbuco Beach in 2013. And we wish that 2012 comes to you full of love, health and transforming encounters!

Best greetings,

Virginia