In Memoriam: David Lomen

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A public memorial service for David Lomen, retired University Distinguished Professor of Mathematics, will be held on Saturday. Lomen, who worked at the UA for more than 40 years, died on Nov. 15 at age 76 after a three-year battle with cancer.

Lomen was born in Decorah, Iowa, and received his doctorate in applied mathematics from Iowa State University.

He joined the UA faculty in 1966 after working for several years in the aerospace industry. Throughout the course of his career, Lomen co-authored several textbooks and research articles on calculus and differential equations.

Lomen was named a University Distinguished Professor in 1996. He later received the UA's Outstanding Faculty Fellow Award and the David Lovelock Innovative Teaching Award. He was a founding member of the Calculus Consortium, a campus group dedicated to improving calculus teachings, and was a Native American Resource Center faculty fellow at the UA for 22 years.

Lomen earned 31 grants throughout his career, including 13 grants from the National Science Foundation. He retired from the University in 2011.

Outside of work, Lomen was involved with multiple community organizations, including the Tucson Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Campus Christian Center and the Lutheran Campus Ministry at the UA, among others.

Dan Madden, interim department head of mathematics, said Lomen was one of the most well-liked and respected members of the department's faculty.

"He was an early advocate of the use of technology in the classroom," Madden said. "He also helped lead the department's efforts in research, teaching and outreach as associate department head. He was a friend to all and a mentor to many. His impact on the department will be felt for many years to come."

Lomen is survived by his wife of 51 years, Constance, and his daughter, Catherine.

Saturday's public memorial will be held at 10 a.m. at Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, 710 S. Kolb Road. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Music Ministries at Fountain of Life Lutheran Church or the David Lomen Endowed Memorial Award, which will be awarded to outstanding UA seniors majoring in math or sciences. Checks should be made payable to the UA Foundation and sent to the UA math department, P.O. Box 210089, Tucson, AZ 85721.
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