

In Memoriam Derek Allen 1947-2023

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In Memoriam

Derek Allen

1947-2023

So often we hear the phrase “a gentleman and a scholar,” but so rarely do we know someone who truly deserves that title. Derek Allen, who died unexpectedly at the end of April, was such a person. Quiet in his demeanour and gracious in manner, this surface hid a fierce intellect that could cut to the heart of a paper and identify exactly what was wrong (or right) with an argument. He was a frequent contributor to *Informal Logic*, with papers distributed over more than three decades. And he was an even more frequent referee for the journal, providing the kinds of detailed, constructive reviews that authors valued and that the editors came to rely upon. Derek gave every task his total commitment. Alas, his perceptive keynote address at the last Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation (OSSA) conference in 2020 was to be his final contribution to an important body of work that will continue to repay careful study. We will all miss his thoughtful counsel and selfless industry.