



## Marc Carlson

July 19, 1962 - May 21, 2022

Ira Marc Carlson was born on July 19th, 1962, in Boulder, CO to Jan Meeker Carlson and Victoria Whitten (Phillips) Carlson. Marc spent his early years in Fort Collins, CO, before moving to Mankato, MN. He moved with his family to Stillwater, OK, where he graduated from Stillwater High School. Marc enlisted in the United States Army Reserves, and he graduated from Basic Training in the summer of 1981 at Fort McClellan.

He attended Oklahoma State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in history and anthropology. He also met the love of his life at OSU. He married Jennifer Delaine LaGrone on January 11th, 1986, in Tulsa, OK. After completing his undergraduate education, he attended the University of Tulsa and received a master's degree in library and information science.

Marc worked at McFarlin Library at the University of Tulsa for more than thirty-five years. He most recently served as the Director of Special Collections, and he loved his work dearly. He was an active member of the Honourable Cordwainer's Company, and he served as their guild librarian for twenty years. Marc devoted years of his research career to the local and state history. He was committed to the preservation of Indigenous history, especially documentation of the history of songs and dances. He participated in conservation work in the Tallgrass Prairie, and he was extremely proud of that work. While Marc was quick to point out the good parts of history, he never

shied away from the bad. He spent more than thirty-five years studying the Tulsa Race Massacre, and he was particularly interested in the preservation of the photographic evidence from that horrific event. His personal motto was “veritas officio mortuua,” which translates to “the truth is our duty to the dead.”

Marc and his wife Jennifer participated in the Society for Creative Anachronism for decades, and his interests included research, historical combat, historical clothing, and shoes. He was especially known for his research about historical shoes. For several years, he was also an active member of the Tulsa School of Defense, where he studied Historical European Martial Arts. For decades, he ran a roleplaying game with a group of close friends. He had a razor-sharp wit, a bone-dry sense of humor, and a penchant for colorful understatement.

After a long fight with alcoholism, he died on May 21st, 2022, in Tulsa, OK.

Marc was preceded in death by his wife Jennifer, his sister Tryeone, and his parents. He is survived by sisters Cindy (Dennis) Moran of Cordillera, CO and Sara Perry of Akron, OH, brothers-in-law Brad (Deb) LaGrone of Deadwood, TX and Clay (Tami) LaGrone of Dallas, TX, godson Nick Shore of Stillwater, OK, goddaughter Katherine Blevins of Tulsa, OK, twelve nieces and nephews and six grandnieces and grandnephews. Marc had two apprentices- Jon Eppler, of Cleveland, OK and Anna Troy, of Harnosand, Sweden. He is also survived by countless other friends, family, friends who became family, colleagues, and other people who knew and loved him through his work.

A memorial service for Marc will be held at the Tulsa Historical Society on Friday June 10th, 2022 at 11am. Graveside service will be on June 11th, 2022 at Deadwood Cemetery in Deadwood, TX. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Marc's name to either Green Country Hospice or 12&12 Addiction Recovery Center.



## Cemetery Details

### Deadwood Cemetery

Deadwood, TX

## Previous Events

### Memorial Service

JUN 10. 11:00 AM.

Tulsa Historical Society  
Tulsa, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *My grandfather was born a Lagrone in Blocton,AL.. Hassis surname changed when he was adopted by the Glover family. I felt very lucky when I found Marc’s extensive LaGrone family ancestry online, but my grandfather was not listed. I contacted him by email and through years of Marc’s ongoing support and my own perseverance, I gained all the information I needed to add my grandfather’s heritage to the thousands of other Lagrones. And, though this is 2 years late, my heart is deeply touched by his passing and I send my condolences to his family....*

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**Laurel DeGrassi** - May 31, 2024 at 11:02 AM



“ *I met Marc online in a discussion group called belief-I. Marc always impressed me and I enjoyed reading many of his posts and discussions. I am saddened to hear of his passing.*

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**Mark Clark** - April 15, 2024 at 10:28 PM



“ *I knew both Marc and Jen from years of working in the McFarlin Library. I saw him last at a Christmas party a few years back and had a nice conversation with him. I am so sorry to hear that he battled alcoholism which in turn contributed to his death. He was always sharp as a tack with his wit and super smart. May he rest in peace.*

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**Paula Udwin** - June 13, 2022 at 01:04 PM

AN

“ I met Marc while working on my dissertation on Ezra Pound. He was instrumental in my success and I thoroughly enjoyed every conversation we had. Marc will be missed.

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**AndyTrevathan** - June 09, 2022 at 06:47 PM



“ I am so saddened to hear about Mark's death! We had been in touch right up to the last week as I now find out. For years now I had been in touch with him as I am a collector of ephemera generally 19th Century American Fact and fiction paper items.

*I have sold and donated to UTL for a number of years now. I looked forward to texting and talking to Mark throughout the year on a number of subjects and items I offered to sell and donate. Mark was the exception rather than the rule with regard to Special collection people. He always got back to me quickly and was always willing to talk about what was going on there as well as evaluating what I had to offer for Special collections.*

*Over time I got to know more about him and he me. I truly considered Mark much more than a contact...and certainly a friend with similar interest as myself. I was truly blessed to know him.*

*I pray that his family can find some peace with his passing. I am so sorry I never got to meet him personally but I will always remember him fondly till the end of my days.  
Rest In Peace my friend. Joe Rainone.*

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**Joe Rainone** - June 03, 2022 at 12:16 PM

MM

“ I had the amazing fortune to meet Marc when I started research on what would become my doctoral dissertation. I utilized several collections in special collections at the McFarlan Library where he was the director of the collections. Marc was witty and a wealth of knowledge and information. On many occasions we had the chance to talk about classic films, Indigenous and African American history in the Tulsa area, and of course cats. Marc was such a wonderful human being and his wit, wisdom, knowledge, and humor will be do dearly missed. Thank you for caring about the community and its history Marc, rest in power and peace.

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**Michelle Martin** - May 26, 2022 at 11:21 PM

JC

“ Marc and I met many years ago. I had been his and Jens waitress at the corner Cafe and really enjoyed his company. Every Christmas they would bake me the most amazing cookies. I went to visit Marc atleast once a month just to say hello.  
He would always remind me his house was the one next to the police.he most definitely will be missed. Love you Marc you were MT true friend

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**Jamie cabral** - May 26, 2022 at 08:10 PM

WB

“ Quite a few years ago I was between jobs and seeking library experience to find a potential library position. Marc was kind enough to let me do some archive work for special collections. I've always remembered and appreciated his being so considerate. He was a wealth of knowledge and wit, and will be missed by all who knew him.

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**Warren Brown** - May 25, 2022 at 10:58 PM