

Dear Allan,

I realize now that I didn't get a chance to feel and show my love for you when you were here beside me. I couldn't be like Esther and show my unconditional deep love to you so that you would not be afraid of me. I always felt defensive and couldn't get through how much I love and cherish you. The twinkle of joy in your eyes, your love of nature and freedom, running down the trails in the Sierras, finding peace in the water, jumping off the boat into another world. Exploring and traveling the world, playing in life. All the while I tried to love you my way. You needed more freedom than I could give you, so all I could do was serve you and try to ease your pain.

Now I can see and feel your pure soul, your joy at being in a new world, swimming in love, a whole field of it. I see your pure heart now, out of the cage of pain and suffering, allowed to be you in your prime. I feel you in a whole new way, a precious soul now allowing yourself to sing.

Thank you for gifting my life with your beautiful and generous heart. As you move now into a world that is expanding, where every positive thought that has been thought continues to grow ever more, I am excited for your journey. In this eternity, you leave behind what you have pushed against in this world, and continue to resonate with the pure essence of love, pure positive energy, that you have been adding to in your forever. Forever love, my friend. I am with you always.

Diane

02/20/21

Al Eisenman

Memories from Rich Williamson

I first heard about Al from Joe Savino when he told us that this bright guy in electronics and optics from the Science Division was coming to the Celestial Sensors group. John McLaughlin was still the Supervisor.

I enjoyed working with Al on several projects.

One key characteristic of Al was his lack of patience. When he encountered resistance from various fronts, too often, he was ready to torpedo whatever was impeding his work. Calming words were often needed, "It's OK, Al, we'll work it out."

Although often appearing non-assertive, I remember well the time we were on a fact-finding visit of

Contractors for the ASTROS star tracker. Al's assertiveness was scaring the heck out of Dick Stanton and me. Al was driving our rental car in New York City. We stopped for a traffic light alongside a big city bus. When the light changed, the bus started coming into traffic, right toward us. Dick yelled, "Let him in; he's coming right at us!!" Al yelled back, "My bumper is ahead of his bumper! I have the right!".

Dick's frantic response was, "But his bumper is heading right into my door!!!" Al held his ground. The bus backed off. Both Dick & I wiped the sweat off our foreheads.

AL LOVED TO TRAVEL!! He had a talent for finding projects that included lots of travel, including foreign travel. Al always seemed to be up for exploratory adventures while traveling, whether it be places to eat or things to see.

I was fortunate to work as his CTM on President Reagan's Star Wars "Pathfinder Project," which included travel to our Contractors: RCA in Princeton, NJ for a missile tracker; A small electronics company in Melbourne, FL for the tracker controller; and JSC in Houston for Shuttle operations.

While in Melbourne one time, there was going to be a Shuttle launch. The morning of the launch, it was raining cats and dogs. Al said, "I'm going anyway to see if it launches." So, we were on the beach, very early in the morning, waiting to see if the sky would clear. It never did, but at the scheduled time, we could hear the roar of the Shuttle being launched. The sky had opened up at KSC just enough for the launch to go off. It was a thrill just to hear the launch of the Shuttle. I think that was about the last Shuttle launch before the Challenger accident. Al is the one who got us out there.

Diane had an administrative job to support the Pathfinder Project. This was when Al became interested in her. She would often travel with us. I remember that our Supervisor tried to get me to act as a chaperone for Al & Diane. I told him I could confirm that they have reservations for separate rooms.

Beyond that, they are big people and are on their own.

It was fun to work with Al. Sometimes a bit challenging. He was especially fun to travel with. He had an interest and enthusiasm about life that was contagious when with him. I am so very grateful for all of my experiences with Al.

Dear Diane,

A few short memories of Allan:

1. In Fall 1982 I took Jo Ann and our 6-month old daughter to New England on a business trip. We met up with Al at Groff's historic farm in Lancaster PA for a great dinner (one of the ladies walked around with Amy while we ate). Jo Ann remembered that occasion a few days before Al died, got out the Groff's cook book and made one of her specialties!

2. Allan was unusual at JPL in that he really liked people! I benefitted from this on many occasions when he introduced me to people that I really should know. A perfect example was Jim Westphal at Caltech—a really fascinating guy. And there were many others.

3. On one hot sticky business trip to DC we left the car windows open when going to a meeting. During the meeting a hellacious thunderstorm broke out, filling the car with at least 6 inches of water. No problem, Al called the rental car company and asked to exchange ours for a drier car. We sat on our briefcases, got a new car, problem solved.

4. I shouldn't mention the time Al lost it and threw his lab notebook across the room. Don't remember the occasion and it didn't happen very often!

All the best –Dick Stanton