

DemiCon 31 Memorial Wall

DemiCon has a Memorial Book where we keep cherished memories of DemiCon guests, attendees and Des Moines Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, Inc. members that are no longer with us. This year we wanted to continue our tradition by sharing a digital page for those we have lost since last DemiCon.

DemiCon Guests

- DemiCon 16 Author Guest of Honor Brad Linaweaver
- DemiCon 26 Guest Amy Lynn Hines

DemiCon Attendees

- Alan Lance Anderson
- Adam Blyth
- Joe Countryman
- Bob Johnson
- Rodney Ruff
- Rick Walch



Brad Linaweaver

September 1, 1952 – August 29, 2019

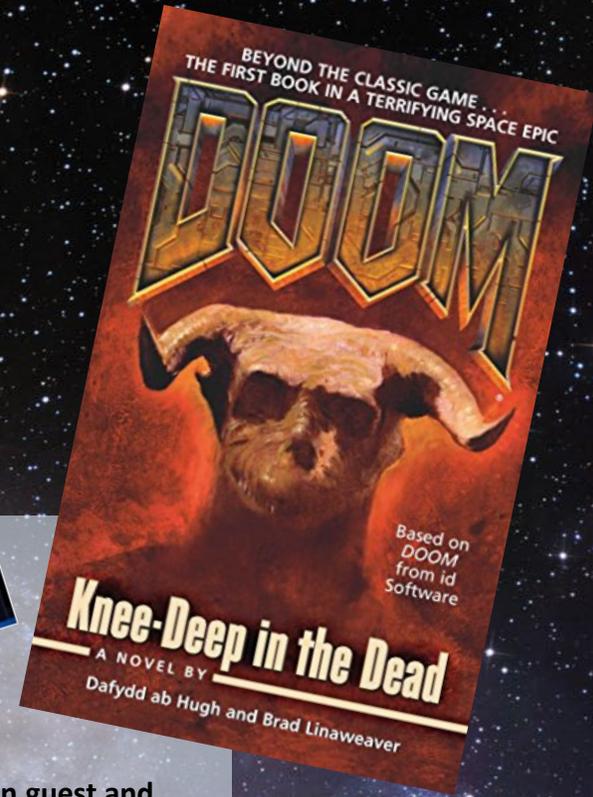
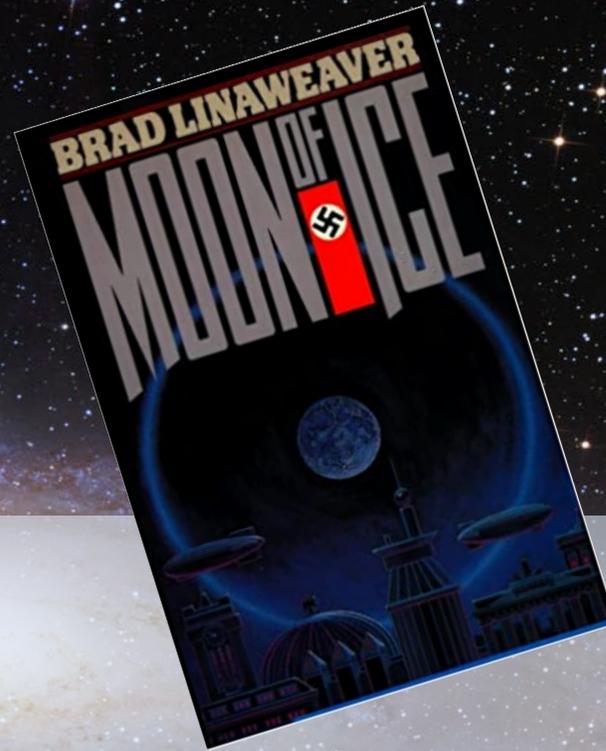
DemiCon XVI Author Guest of Honor

Brad Linaweaver was an engaging speaker with eclectic interests which made him a popular convention guest and panelist. Brad had a 40-year career with a body of work including novels, short stories, and screenplays.

Moon of Ice is often considered his magnum opus. An alternate history in which Nazi Germany is the first to develop the atomic bomb. Brad wrote several other novels including the Doom series and several in collaboration with other authors.

Brad owned a signaling gun, or small brass cannon, which had originally belonged to science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein. For nearly 30 years, the firing of the brass cannon was a July 4 tradition at the Heinlein residence. Virginia Heinlein retained the cannon after her husband's death in 1988, and it was bequeathed to Linaweaver in her will, Brad restored the cannon to working order and subsequently posted a 2007 video of it being fired several times (with very small charges) on YouTube.

DemiCon was fortunate to have shared some time with such a special guest.





Amy Lynn Hines

DECEMBER 12, 1973 – AUGUST 29, 2019

DemiCom 26 Guest

Amy was a Child and Family Therapist professionally and brought comfort to all that she worked with. She loved having pets in the house, rescuing them from the street or from local shelters. She loved spending time in the outdoors of the upper peninsula of Michigan. Amy was married to our DemiCom 26 Author Guest of Honor Jim C. Hines. She and Jim had two great children, Skylar and Jaime who still miss her greatly.



Alan Lance Andersen

Alan Lance Andersen was a writer, storyteller, and performer. He attended several of the early DemiCons.

Alan was a puzzle aficionado and wrote numerous articles for Games Magazine. He was co-owner of the Theatre of Interactive Drama and did audience participation mystery dramas all over the Midwest from 1987 to 2004. He also did interactive performances at street festivals and renaissance festivals.

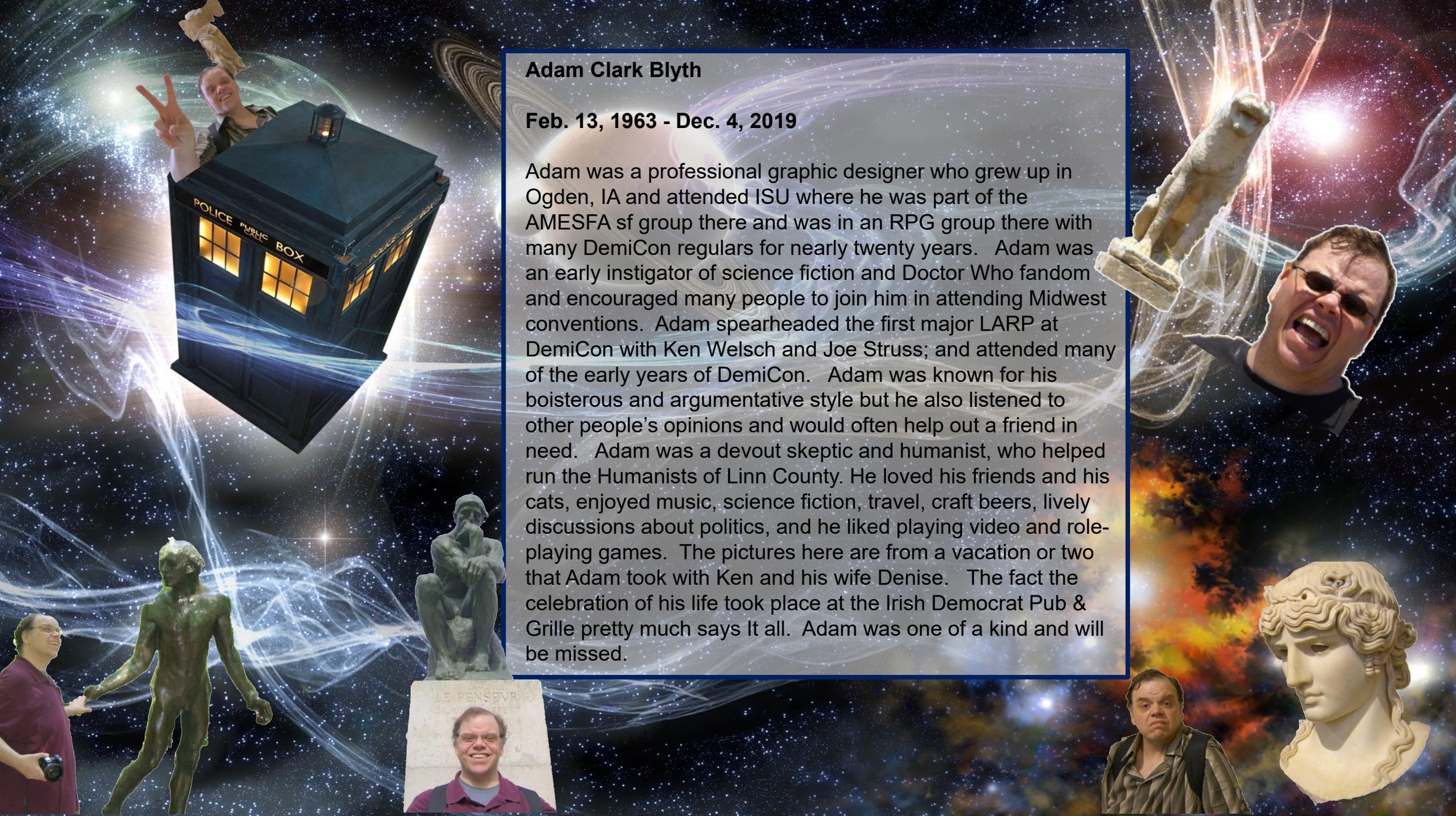
Alan played the Sheriff of Nottingham, Stan from Laurel and Hardy, the Mad Hatter from Alice in Wonderland, and an amazing Father Christmas. He wrote numerous books in the Wizard Academies series and his last book was Alice's Final Adventure.



Adam Clark Blyth

Feb. 13, 1963 - Dec. 4, 2019

Adam was a professional graphic designer who grew up in Ogden, IA and attended ISU where he was part of the AMESFA sf group there and was in an RPG group there with many DemiCon regulars for nearly twenty years. Adam was an early instigator of science fiction and Doctor Who fandom and encouraged many people to join him in attending Midwest conventions. Adam spearheaded the first major LARP at DemiCon with Ken Welsch and Joe Struss; and attended many of the early years of DemiCon. Adam was known for his boisterous and argumentative style but he also listened to other people's opinions and would often help out a friend in need. Adam was a devout skeptic and humanist, who helped run the Humanists of Linn County. He loved his friends and his cats, enjoyed music, science fiction, travel, craft beers, lively discussions about politics, and he liked playing video and role-playing games. The pictures here are from a vacation or two that Adam took with Ken and his wife Denise. The fact the celebration of his life took place at the Irish Democrat Pub & Grille pretty much says it all. Adam was one of a kind and will be missed.



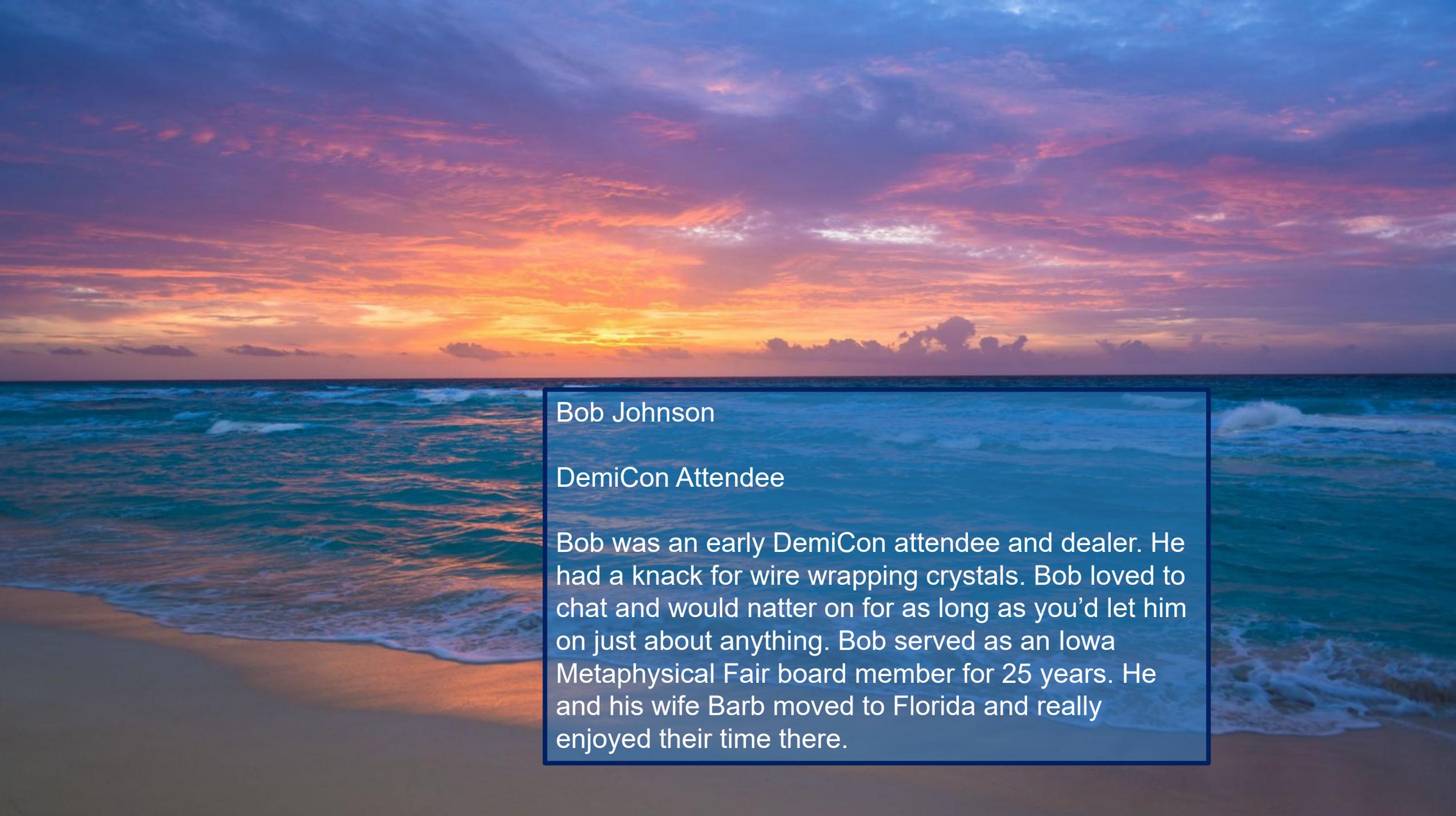
Joseph Countryman

1974 – 2019

DemiCon Attendee

Joe was a Scout leader and enjoyed camping with Jasper and spending time in nature. He had a passion for photography. Joe was known for his positive attitude, his infectious smile, and his kind and compassionate spirit.



A sunset over the ocean with a blue text box overlay. The sky is filled with vibrant colors of orange, yellow, and purple, transitioning into a deep blue. The ocean is a mix of turquoise and dark blue, with white foam from waves breaking on the sandy beach in the foreground. The text box is a semi-transparent blue rectangle with a dark blue border, containing white text.

Bob Johnson

DemiCon Attendee

Bob was an early DemiCon attendee and dealer. He had a knack for wire wrapping crystals. Bob loved to chat and would natter on for as long as you'd let him on just about anything. Bob served as an Iowa Metaphysical Fair board member for 25 years. He and his wife Barb moved to Florida and really enjoyed their time there.



Rodney Ruff

October 4, 1958 - November 5, 2019

Fannish Facts

- **DemiCon Attendee**
- **Trivia Contest winner**
- **Filk writer**

Rodney was a frequent DemiCon attendee. He was a trivia buff and often won a trivia challenge. Rodney enjoyed singing in the filk circles too. He could occasionally be found behind a table in the dealer's room selling some found treasures.

Rick Walch

Passed April 2020

DemiCon Attendee

Rick Walch was a frequent DemiCon attendee and could usually be found in the dealer's room selling some fine treasures.

