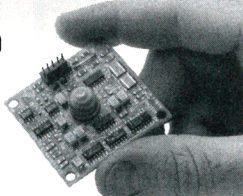


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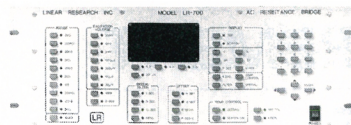
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Becky's talents extended far beyond astrophysics, ranging from soccer to poetry. She was a keen observer of herself and those around her, with an ability to share her observations with humor and gentle irony, as in the accompanying poem, which was published in 1997.

Writing in the 50th anniversary issue of *Sky and Telescope*, Becky quoted Robert Grant Aitken, the director of the Lick Observatory in 1930-35 on the "use" of astronomy: "to set free the mind of man. . . by giving him an ever-widening horizon, by revealing to him an ever more glorious Universe." Becky's scientific contributions helped significantly in widening our horizon, and her life made the universe just a bit more glorious.

**DAVID J. HELFAND
GERRY F. GILMORE**

*Institute of Astronomy
Cambridge, England*

Jeffrey Lannin

Jeffrey Lannin, a 23-year member of Pennsylvania State University's physics department, died at his home in State College, Pennsylvania, on 10 September 1997 after a yearlong bout with a malignant brain tumor.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, on 21 August 1940, Jeff earned a BS from Purdue University in 1962, an MS from the University of Illinois in 1964, and a PhD in materials science from Stanford University in 1971.

Jeff joined the Penn State physics faculty in 1976, after working at Lockheed Research Laboratory in Palo Alto, California (1967-68), in Manuel Cardona's group at the Max Planck Institute for Metals Research in Stuttgart, Germany (1971-74), and at Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois (1974-75).

Specializing in the spectroscopy of materials, Jeff exploited a wide range of experimental techniques—based on x-rays, electrons, neutrons, and photons—to probe the structures of a remarkably diverse range of phenomena, including crystalline and amorphous solids, liquid, clusters, thin films, and nanostructures. This variety of experimental approaches reflected his ability to focus on and probe the fundamental physics of a problem. Whatever material he studied, Jeff persistently sought to elucidate its microscopic structure and dynamics and to interpret them in terms of physical models, both theoretical and intuitive. Examples of Jeff's accomplishments are the first Raman scattering studies of liquid semiconductors, the most extensive and rich Raman spectra of amorphous solids, and the development and first use of the interference-enhanced Raman

method for amorphous metals.

One of Jeff's long-standing goals, which related to his research interests, was to promote and enhance Penn State's effort in the field of materials physics. To that end, he taught interdisciplinary courses geared to materials physics and encouraged interactions with other materials science programs on campus. He also lobbied relentlessly to create a strong formal program in materials physics that would ultimately grant advanced degrees. Though such a program does not exist yet at Penn State, his advocacy led in part to the creation in of the university's Center for Materials Physics, of which he was an enthusiastic supporter.

Jeff inculcated in his students not only an appreciation for careful and methodical experimentation, but also the need to prepare for the real world. He did so by encouraging them to develop both an understanding of relevant technology and the ability to communicate basic and applied knowledge. By their successes, the students (undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate) who worked with Jeff provide irrefutable evidence of his excellence as a mentor.

Jeff was as committed to the education component of his profession as he was to his research. He was constantly involved in refining and developing innovative content and teaching methods, especially for introductory physics courses. He was dedicated to course and curriculum improvement on all levels of instruction.

Jeff's protracted illness and death were profound and moving experiences for those of us who attended him. In that period, we were amazed by his resilience and eagerness to maintain his commitment to his students and his research program. His courage and lack of self-indulgence in the face of his debilitating illness was something we can only admire and hope to emulate.

An exuberant person, Jeff was strongly committed to the welfare of those less fortunate. He spoke passionately and courageously about them and whatever else he believed in. A description of Jeff would be incomplete without mentioning his enjoyment of skiing, tennis, jazz, and philosophy, the pleasures of which he communicated unbidden. His presence will be sorely missed by all of us in the department and by the community of physicists who knew and admired him.

**MILTON W. COLE
PAUL H. CUTLER**

*Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania* ■