



# NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • March 2017

## Remembering a Kind and Joyful Man

by Darlene Large, HOINA President

March has always been special for me as it is my birth month. Long ago on a Palm Sunday in 1935, I was born in New Jersey when the church bells were ringing. At this time, in Reading, Pennsylvania, there was a little boy with blond curls whose name was Bruce, who was 2 1/2 years old. I met him 20 years later at Penn State University, where he was majoring in dairy science, and I, in art. His first job upon graduating took us to Caracas, Venezuela, just two weeks after we were married. While there, we experienced a revolution and lost a baby; but we learned a different language and met many wonderful friends. When we were in South America, I worked in a Lutheran school, and Bruce became manager of a dairy, ironically called Leche Carabobo (Funny Face Milk).

After two years, we returned to Penn State; so that I could finish my last year of college and he could obtain a master's degree in dairy science. While we hadn't planned to start a family while we were in school, our son Dirk was born the fall after our graduations. Following our college

years were moves to Walton and then Syracuse, New York. All along the way, I taught in elementary schools and Bruce worked in dairy science.

Our next home was in Evanston, Illinois, near Chicago.



Papa and Mom, 2009

We became heavily involved in Boy Scouts at the time. One of the funny memories I have of this time is when there was a father-son competition in baking. Bruce and Dirk made a cake, but the center fell in, so Bruce laid a piece of cardboard on it and covered that with frosting. The boys planned to bring the cake home; however, they did not realize the cakes would be auctioned off. Bruce ended up buying back his popular cake for the rich price of \$10. Neither of them had anticipated that outcome. We have laughed over that funny memory many times.

In 1969, I became ill with M.S. I spent a month in a Chicago hospital and was told I would be blind, paralyzed, and in a wheelchair by the age of 50. Bruce and my doctor decided that Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was a good place to relocate. It was in that beautiful Amish country that Bruce helped to found the Sunrise Lions Club, and I founded HOINA—Homes of the Indian Nation. After a number of years, he was finally

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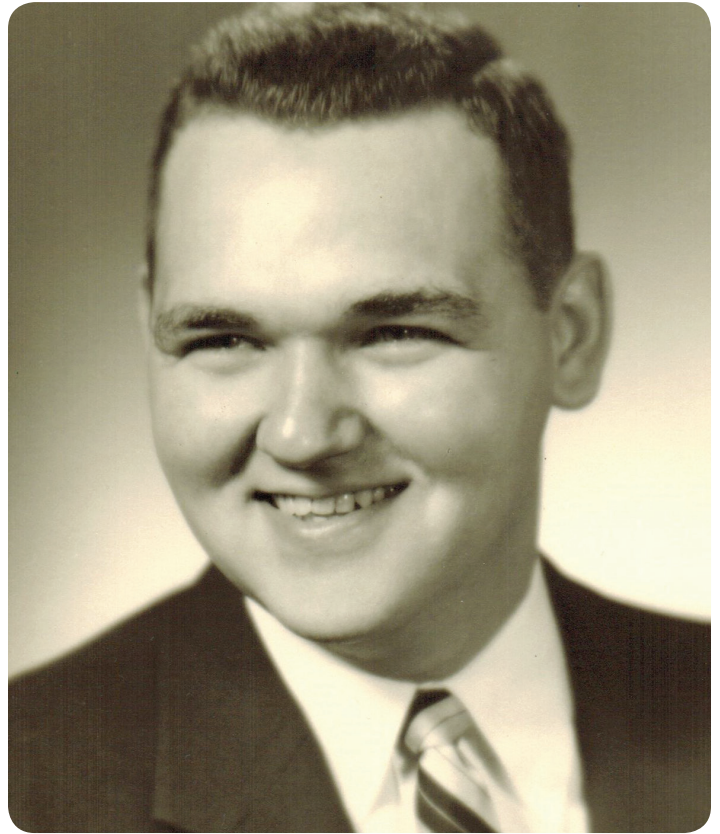
## Remembering continued from page 1

convinced to get involved. What would I have done without his teaching? He taught me management skills, and he taught many of our staff in India. His levelheadedness was just what was called for when I had problems and needed some advice.

Bruce treated everyone—no matter their level of education, or age, or calling in life—as an equal, deserving of respect. That character trait earned him many friends around the globe. During his early years of consulting and by the end of his life, on January 31, 2017, he had worked in over 50 countries. By the time we said our final goodbye, he had moved us 24 times—house to house and place to place. Because he was grateful that I always encouraged him in his career, he was willing to let me go to India to rescue abused and orphaned children. He was my best friend and my husband of over 60 years.

Bruce wrote in our last newsletter about his final trip to India. While there, he suffered with angina, and the cardiologist at Apollo Hospital in India told him he had blockages in his heart. Our cardiologist decided he needed open-heart surgery on the 17th of January in Saint Louis. When he returned from surgery to the intensive care unit, he was there for 15 days. My children, Letti and Dirk, and I were with him daily. Finally, on the last day of January, he left us and went on to heaven.

As he lay on his bed, I sat holding his hand, and suddenly a very, very tall African man who was on staff at the hospital,



Papa, handsome college graduate

came in to see him. He said he had heard that Papa Bruce had worked in Africa. I said yes, he worked in about 50 countries and eight or ten of those in Africa. The man was from Ghana. I told him that Papa had worked in Ghana and liked that country very much. When the man asked what he did, I explained that he made soy protein powder and it

was mixed in cow's milk and fed to orphan children. This man's eyes lit up, and he smiled a wide grin and nearly jumped up. He raised his arms in the air and said, "Madam, I was one of those orphan children. God used him to save my life. Oh! I wish I could have known him." What a wonderful moment of comfort God provided at the end of my dear husband's life.

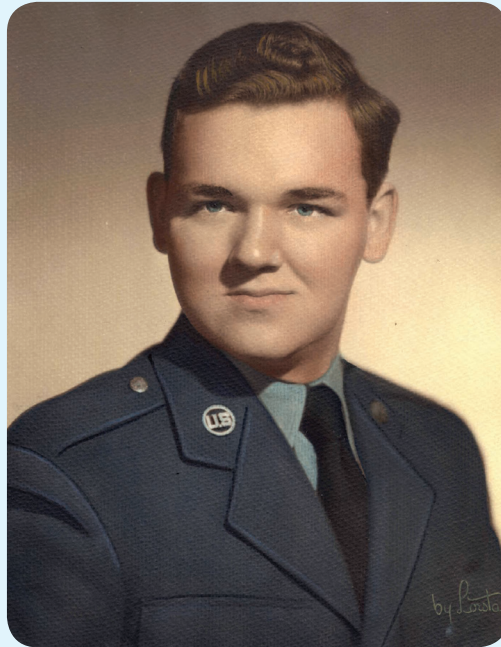
Many people will miss Papa Bruce. He was unmatched in his kindness. Our HOINA children lost their Papa, but one day we shall meet again in heaven with our Savior Jesus Christ.



Papa with HOINA children, 2012

## Bruce Derr Large Obituary

Bruce Derr Large, of Saint Charles, MO, passed away on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, at the age of 84. He was the beloved husband of 60 years to Darlene D. Large; cherished son of the late Walter Francis Large and the late Rachel Derr Marcks Large Kooker; devoted father of Dirk L. Large, Letti L. (Todd) Becker, and Raja K. Daggumalli (Suvendra Dutta); loving grandfather of Elsie and Dirk Becker, and Arunendro and Rajendro Dutta; dear brother of Lawrence M. (Elizabeth) Large and Debora L. (W. Larry) Kauffman; and cherished uncle of his nieces and nephews. He is mourned by these and his extended family members and numerous dear friends across the globe.



Bruce Derr Large

Bruce was born and raised in Eastern PA. After high school, he proudly served his country in the 148th Fighter Squadron of the USA Air Force during the Korean War. He earned his Bachelor and his Master of Science degrees in Dairy Science from The Pennsylvania State University and while there he joined the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. His first job out of the college was with a dairy in Caracas, Venezuela. He worked for Breakstone Foods in NY, then for a dairy in Chicago. He worked for Profit Management and Development Co., where he was a highly sought after dairy consultant. He also worked

for Weavers Poultry in New Holland, PA, for over 20 years, where he was eventually promoted to Director of Research and Development. In the later years of his career, he traveled to many countries as a private contractor for Protein Technologies International-Solae and then a Senior Consultant for NSF-Cook and Thurber. Most recently, he was honored by the International Food Science Certification Commission with the title of Certified Food Scientist.

Outside of the work listed here, Bruce devoted 34 years of his life to the orphanage work, Homes of the Indian Nation (HOINA) founded by his wife Darlene, for which he served as a board member. Bruce was also an active member, choir member, and ordained Deacon of the First Baptist Church of St. Charles; a member of the southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Group; and a charter member of the Manheim Township Sunrise Lions Club. No matter how busy Bruce was, he always had time for family and friends. All of those people, whose lives he touched, will fondly remember him for his wonderful sense of humor and generous heart. Bruce had an infectious laugh that was never directed at the expense of others. He had the ability to see the humor in any situation, and that gift will be sorely missed by any who knew him.

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:

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PO Box 87  
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This newsletter is published to inform our readers of the work HOINA does among the handicapped and abandoned in India.

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The official registration and financial information of Homes of the Indian Nation (HOINA) may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, 1.717.787.1057. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Papa Large at HOINA, 2010

## HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

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March 2017

- Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the HOINA Education Fund or where most needed.
- I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my first monthly gift of \$35.
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(please give name and address of person): \_\_\_\_\_

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## Spread the Kindness With a Child Sponsorship



Our feature child for March is a darling 11-year-old, G. Sriswarna. Her parents were married in 1996. Mr. Ramarao, Swarna's father, worked as a daily laborer. The couple was blessed with this baby girl on August 7, 2005. Just three years later, Mr. Ramarao died from complications with his diabetes. After her husband's death, Swarna's mother also suffered with diabetes and was unable to do any hard work. Upon seeing her pitiful condition, a pastor from Gandhinagaram approached HOINA seeking admission for Swarna.

Sriswarna would like to be doctor when she grows up. Maybe she will help find a cure for diabetes, which took her father. If you would like to sponsor this sweet girl, please complete the coupon on page 3 and send it with your first monthly gift of \$35 to our Pennsylvania office. We accept direct deposit from your bank, as well. Feel free to ask our office staff about that when you write.