

SUNY computer whiz dies

Arthur Mark Adlerstein, who founded one of the first university computer science departments (at the Old Westbury SUNY campus), died Tuesday in Palo Alto, Calif., of complications following heart surgery. He was 74.



A Brighton Beach native and current resident of Bloomville, N.Y., he received a doctorate in psychology from Princeton University and became a child psychologist before returning to teach psychology and computer science in the university system.

Adlerstein was an outspoken faculty member at the State University of New York at Old Westbury, where in the late 1960s, he advocated the legalization of marijuana and served as a professor of psychology. He later founded the school's computer science department and served as department head. He was very active in minority education and made many contributions to the Old Westbury programs dedicated to making education available to all levels of society.

He received bachelor's and master's degrees from Brooklyn College and served as an Associate Dean at Livingston College of Rutgers University.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a sister, Dr. Leonore Herzenberg of Stanford, CA, a Professor of Genetics at Stanford University Medical School; stepsons, David Liederman of New York, the founder of David's Cookies, and Bill Liederman, owner of Mickey Mantle's Restaurant, and seven grandchildren.

Originally published on April 25, 2004

http://www.nydailynews.com/news/wn_report/story/187208p-162116c.html