

My name is Dr. Daniel Kramlich, and I am a longtime colleague and friend of Robert's, mostly through HBU. Besides Dean Linder, Robert was the first HBU faculty member I met there when I came on campus for an interview in July, 1981. Robert instantly made me feel welcome on that nervous day. Over the years, besides being great friends and colleagues at HBU, we collaborated on many projects in the community, including Chevron Choir, Memorial Care Systems Sounds of Caring (things got pretty zany at times with those folks), and joint concerts with our respective church choirs (Memorial Dr BC and Mission Bend UMC), not to mention a few athletic endeavors (which perhaps shouldn't be discussed here).

It was always enjoyable and rewarding to work with Robert. His knowledge, musicianship, and communication skills always made things very productive. But the best thing about working with Robert was his infectious and easy laughter. And I say that not just because he laughed at most of my jokes, but also because he possessed a keen wit and was quick with his own. I will carry the sound of his laughter in my mind's ear for the rest of my days, and am better for it.

It would be easy to go on for hours about what was special about Robert Reid. Come to think of it, talking for hours would be near the top of his list of attributes. I have known no better conversationalist than Robert Reid. Always a good listener, he could turn a simple phone call to confirm a rehearsal time into a long and interesting discussion of topics as far-ranging as politics, religion, sports, and why certain towns in Texas (Refugio) are pronounced funny. Five minutes turn into twenty five with ease.

Robert Reid was a man of conviction. Even though my twenty five years of trying to convince Robert that he supported the WRONG political party failed miserably, it was always clear that both our ideologies were what they were for good reasons. Robert NEVER showed animosity or ill-will towards anyone. His convictions always centered around three things: Love of God, Love of country, and Love of his fellow man. Who can argue with that?

Thank you, Robert.