

IN MEMORIAM

WALTER KAEGI JR. (1937-2022)

Walter Kaegi Jr. passed away on February 24, 2022, at the age of 84. A professor emeritus in the Department of History, Walter specialized in the military history of the Late Roman and Byzantine empires and of early Islam. He joined the University of Chicago in 1965 with a PhD from Harvard University. With his focus on the Byzantine and early Islamic periods, he was a natural affiliate of the OI and was closely associated with many other University departments and units including History, Art History, Classics, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and the Divinity School. We will miss his wisdom and reminiscences about the decades he spent in our midst.



STEPHEN RITZEL (1946-2022)

Longtime and loyal volunteer Stephen Ritzel passed away on May 14, 2022, at the age of 75. Stephen was a tremendous pillar of the OI community, reliably coming in every Sunday for years. He started as a volunteer in 1981 and helped train legions of docents, including the most recent class of 2019. He had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge about the ancient Near East. He was a fixture at Mummies Night and loved to dress up and talk to children about all things Egyptian.

NORMA VAN DER MEULEN (1925-2022)

Longtime Suq gift shop volunteer Norma van der Meulen passed away on August 15, 2022, at the age of 96. A docent since 1978, Norma worked closely with Denise Browning in the Suq, for which she also designed unique jewelry often based on ancient designs. She educated customers about their Suq purchases and engaged them in conversation whether they were schoolchildren, visiting scholars, or University of Chicago dignitaries. Many people will miss her welcoming presence.

