



Craig and Trudy E. Bell at their engagement, April 1993, in the Huntington Gardens, C.A. Craig and daughter Roxana at her graduation from Cuyaboga Community College, May 2012 (a month before his death).

When I received the news of Craig's death, I thought immediately of your close friendship, and only later learned that you'd been married to him. Of course I share the general sadness at the loss of such a kind, interesting man, and can hardly imagine your feelings. Please know you have my sympathy and every wish for courage and strength at this time. In friendship, Dava Sobel (author of best-selling *Longitude*)

I was very shocked and saddened to learn of Craig's death. So unexpected, and in my mind, he was still relatively young. I knew him for many years and always enjoyed his visits to the U.S. Naval Observatory Library. We used to joke that he became a permanent fixture at the Xerox machine as there were so many references he couldn't find elsewhere that he wanted to photocopy. As years went by and I became more active in the American Astronomical Society's Historical Astronomy Division, I would see him at the January meetings from time to time.

He was a serious scholar doing very important research in the history of astronomy. How unfortunate his scholarship has been cut short... but how fortunate that you and Craig were together in such happy pursuits right up to the moment of his heart attack.

I love the photos. And I'm so glad to hear of your plans for continuing his studies. How fitting. Even the division of the ashes sounds perfectly apt.

Although I knew of most of his history of astronomy research, I did not know of his interest in early baseball which is fascinating. It is still hard to believe he is gone. - All the best... Brenda Corbin (retired USNO chief librarian)

I am so sorry for what you and for Roxana are going through in losing Craig. As his friend, I saw him as

plainly crazy about both of you, and I saw how much he drew from your steady closeness to him.

What I saw in Craig was great conceptual mastery wrapped in gentleness, and a habitual jollity. He knew how smart he was, and his historical research met the highest scholarly standards; but he knew that neither smartness, nor standards, are not all there is. I thought he found endless enjoyment in the random variety of everyday experience, not excluding its moments of sheer absurdity.

Craig was always fun to talk to . . . about anything. He and I were heavily involved in planning "Games Tabulation 2.0." for the new Protoball.org website. My loss is nothing like your loss, but I'm not sure where to turn, without him. None of us ever really told Craig how good, and how important, we thought the Games Tabulation is, but I do think it will prove to be a real boon to a field of research that he obviously loved. - Lawrence E. McCray, Project on Knowledge and Decisionmaking, MIT



Craig with daughter Roxana sitting in a giant catcher's mitt at the Louisville Slugger factory museum, August 2010.

I was shocked to hear of Craig's sudden death. It is, I'm sure, a very great blow to those closest to him, but wonderful that he was in the midst of historical research that he knew and loved. Our acquaintance goes back to the 1980s when Comet Halley studies brought us together, and over the years Craig was very kind to me and supportive of my amateur efforts to write astronomical history. When he needed writers for encyclopedia articles, I was pleased to be included and learned a lot from the guidelines he provided. Like many others, my thoughts are with you at this difficult, emotional time. - Very best regards, Peter Broughton (ATS historian, Canada)

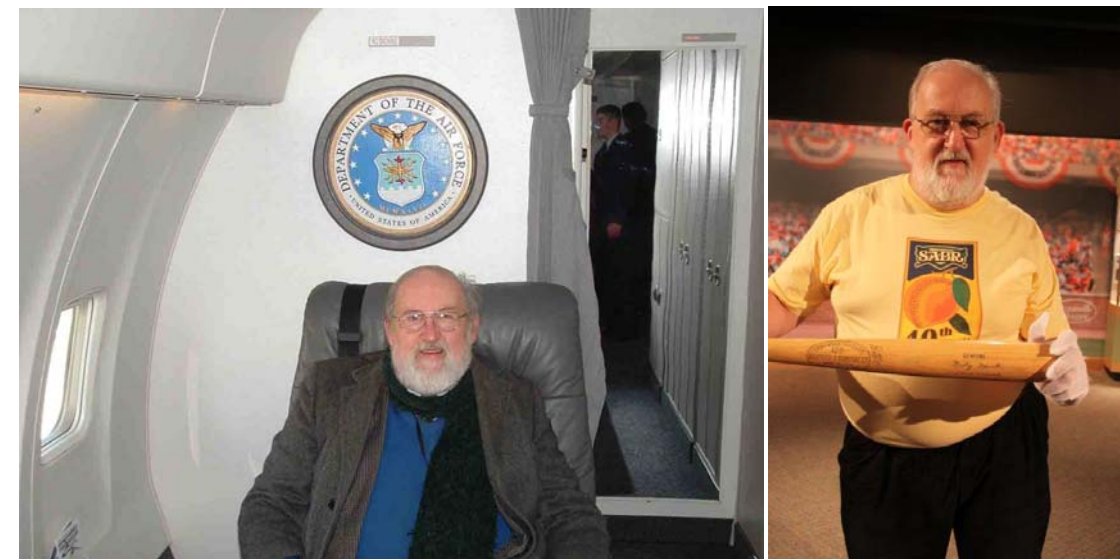


**Symposium in History of Astronomy and Origins of Baseball
In Memory of Historian**

CRAIG BEALE WAFF, Ph.D.

(May 3, 1946— June 12, 2012)

**Under the Auspices of the
Antique Telescope Society (ATS) and the Vintage Base Ball Association (VBBA)**



Clockwise from upper left: AFRL Senior Historian Craig B. Waff sitting in Air Force Two, Andrews AFB, 2006; at the Louisville Slugger museum with Mickey Mantle's bat, August 2010; sporting the shirt of his favorite team at the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown, NY, May 1996 (a 50th birthday surprise from his wife Trudy E. Bell), with 5-year-old Roxana; detail of Mt. Pleasant, PA map (1900; Library of Congress) that Craig loved because it shows the 191C Frick Observatory (center of park) alongside a baseball game.

At the
Cincinnati Observatory Center
3489 Observatory Place, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

Friday, June 27, 2014, 6:00 PM – Saturday, June 28, 2014, 9:30 PM

WAFF SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2014

- 6:00 PM—Arrive at Cincinnati Observatory Center (COC), check in for registration packet, see display table
- 6:30 PM—Welcome and Housekeeping: Craig Niemi, COC Executive Director
- 6:45 PM—“Daddy and Mentor” Roxana Bell, Evergreen graduate, Craig Waff’s daughter
- 7:00 PM—“The Gumshoe Historian Strikes Again!” Trudy E. Bell, science journalist, Craig Waff’s S.O.
- 7:15 PM—Walk to Neptune
- 7:30 PM—“Cosmic Encounters: The Impact of Finding Extraterrestrial Life” Steven J. Dick, Library of Congress; former NASA Chief Historian; Craig’s close friend
- 8:00 PM—Ice Cream Social
- 8:30 PM—“The Cincinnati Observatory: Introduction and Tour” John E. Ventre, COC Historian
- 9:30 PM—Observing of Saturn through COC’s historic telescopes (weather permitting)

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2014

- 8:00 AM—Continental breakfast at the COC
- 8:30 AM—“Poised to Grow: The Knickerbocker Base Ball Club, The Knickerbocker Rules, and the New York Game, 1845-1854” Robert Tholkes, contributor to SABR publications and to the journal *Base Ball*
- 9:00 AM—“The Correspondence of William Huggins: Putting Meat on the Bones of the Scientist’s Account” Barbara J. Becker, Professor (retired), University of California, Irvine
- 9:30 AM—15-minute coffee break
- 9:45 AM—“Teaching Astronomy in Ante-Bellum American Colleges” Marc Rothenberg, Agency Historian, National Science Foundation
- 10:15 AM—“Before the Chicago Cubs; Baseball Comes to the Windy City” Bruce S. Allardice, Professor of History, South Suburban College
- 10:45 AM—15-minute coffee break
- 11:00 AM—“The Lost Reds Champions of ’39 and ’40” Leo Bradley, Chair/Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Human Resource Development
- 11:30 AM—“Who Invented the Solar System?” Nick Kanas, Professor Emeritus, UC San Francisco
- 12:00 PM—Group photograph, followed by catered lunch at the COC. Lunchtime discussion topic: Form of the proceedings from the symposium
- 1:00 PM—“You Seem Familiar? The Comet of 1744” Lawrence D’Antonio, Professor of Mathematics, Ramapo College
- 1:30 PM—“A ‘most spirit stirring event’: The Discovery of Neptune And Why It Sparked a Firestorm of Controversy” Robert W. Smith, Professor, History of Science, University of Alberta
- 2:00 PM—15-minute iced tea break
- 2:15 PM—“Red Stocking Revolution” Greg Rhodes, founding director, Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame
- 2:45 PM—“Baseball’s Oldest Professional Team?” Chris Eckes, Chief Curator, Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame
- 3:15 PM—Brief wrap-up of formal papers sessions; 15-minute bio break; discussion of field trip logistics
- 3:30 PM—carpooling and off-site behind-the-scenes field trip tour of Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame, led by Greg Rhodes and Chris Eckes
- 6:00 PM—approximate return to COC; time to freshen up at hotel or to view videorecorded talk: “Craig Waff: Historian of Space and Astronomy, A Personal Voyage” Andrew J. Butrica, NASA Contract Historian
- 7:00 PM—Reception and Banquet at Xavier University, Conaton Board Room (2nd floor of Schmidt Hall, on University Drive off of Dana Ave.). KEYNOTE: “Craig Waff: From the Earth to the Moon and into Deep Space” Steven J. Dick; Q&A/Panel discussion/group sharing of memories of Craig Waff; drawings for books and CDs

2012 REMARKS FROM COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS UPON HEARING OF HIS PASSING

Craig and I shared research interests, and when he was my guest here a few years ago while spending time at the Boston Public Library, he kept an eye out for materials of interest to me and provided a very valuable tidbit. As you know, we were corresponding a couple of months ago about observatory history. Craig and I last chatted in Cleveland at the History of Science Society annual meeting. Of course, he didn’t look healthy, but I had no knowledge of his health problems. I always enjoyed his curiosity and discussions of our shared interests. I sense that the history of astronomy hasn’t gained the full benefit of his researches, and you surely know better than I if there is unpublished material that should see the light of day. The history of astronomy has sustained a grave loss. - Adam Apt

I enjoyed talking with him at the Mount Wilson Observatory [transit of Venus symposium], and it was notable how many people came up to him after his O. M. Mitchel talk to express their appreciation. I was about to email him to ask about the most useful links for accessing online historical newspapers. During the Charlottesville [Antique Telescope Society] meeting, it was obvious how Roxana related and looked up to him. - Roger Sinnott, *Sky & Telescope*

I remember meeting Craig at Ann Arbor and Notre Dame in 2009. I believe I even give him a lift in my rented car. He seemed a very gentle, and gentlemanly man. I enjoyed my conversations with him greatly.



Region	Reference	# of Games	# of Sources
Baltimore-Washington	Hunt, P&F	9	10
California	Hunt, P&F	4	5
Canada	Hunt, P&F	3	3
Chicago	Hunt, P&F	16	17
Cincinnati	Hunt, P&F	16	17
Connecticut	Hunt, P&F	1	4
Detroit	Hunt, P&F	1	3
Greater New York City	Hunt, P&F	6,493	6,758

The CBW Games Tab page is now at <http://protoball.org/The-Craig-B.-Waff-Games-Tabulation>. You’ll see that it includes my tribute to Craig. In essence, Protoball’s debt to Craig owes to [a] his teaching us what was possible in detailing 1850s ball games, [b] in inspiring us to attempt the Pre-Pro data base for pre-1871 data on games and ball clubs along similar lines, and [c] for countless illuminating conversations, several of them as a craftily delightful house guest during his research trip to Worcester in 2007 or 2008. - Lawrence E. McCray, baseball historian, curator of Protoball.org, June 22, 2014

The ATS will definitely miss him! His contributions to the society and to the scholarship on the history of telescopes and astronomy will live after him for a long time to come. The double issue of *JATS* on the Clarks is absolutely one of the very best issues of all! It is a tribute to Craig, as well as to you, that the scholarship in *JATS* is of top-notch quality. I only hope that Craig’s work on O.M. Mitchel will be completed and published to add still more, very deserved luster to Craig’s memory. - Roger Ceragioli (professional telescope optician, historian of astronomy)



Craig B. Waff inside the 150-foot solar telescope at Mount Wilson Observatory, pointing at the image of Venus on the face of the sun during the transit of Venus June 5, 2012, just two days before he collapsed.

I was truly amazed by Craig’s skills at uncovering information (e.g. the Clark correspondence in Boston papers) as well as his skill as a researcher. A big loss all around and I regret not having known him. - Matt Considine (ATS board member)

He had a wonderful soul. May flights of angels sing him to his rest. - Cooky Oberg (science writer Alcestis Oberg, wife of Russian space expert James E. Oberg) My sympathies, Trudy. But, you know, I hope I can still be marveling at the wonders of nature two days before my death [referring to the transit of Venus]. - Boyce Rensberger, ATS

I am so sorry to learn of Craig’s passing. I am shocked. This is a wonderful picture of Craig; he looks so very happy. All the best, Andrew J. Butrica (NASA contract historian and long-time friend)

I just reviewed some of the e-mails he and I exchanged—he was so generous with his time in helping me track down information on nineteenth century female baseball players for my book. He and I shared another link, too—the Air Force. I’m a retired Colonel and I taught history at the Air Force Academy. He had a real love for history too. I love your plans for his ashes. I think he would approve. - Debbie Shattuck (member of Society for American Baseball Research)