

*In memoriam*

Robert F. Wheeler

(January 29, 1940—December 23, 1977)

As can be seen by glancing at his curriculum vitae, Bob Wheeler, although only thirty-seven at the time of his death, had produced a record of achievement both as a private scholar and in the public realm as a vigorous promoter of his own subject in the American Historical Association and elsewhere that any but the most senior historian of Germany and of western Europe should envy.

Educated at Niagara University and the University of Pittsburgh (Ph.D. 1970), Bob held an Associate Professorship in the Department of History at the University of Southern California. He produced one full-length book, *USPD und Internationale, Sozialistischer Internationalismus in der Zeit der Revolution* (Berlin–Frankfurt, 1975), wrote an introduction to another, and penned more than fifteen articles on topics varying from “Labor History and Quantification” and “The Soviet Example and the German Revolution” to “Working Class Culture and Sport.” To the outsider, however, what was equally impressive were Bob’s energetic and unsparing efforts to develop and explore the cutting edge of new research and ideas concerning not simply German social history but also working class history as a whole. In all, he attended and either delivered papers at, or chaired or acted as a commentator in more than fifteen conferences on working class history in places as varied as Berkeley, Bochum, Atlanta and Linz. At the time of his death Bob was completing a book-length manuscript entitled *War, Revolution, and Proletarian Solidarity: Grass Roots Internationalism*, which was under contract to the University of California Press.

Bob Wheeler’s research notes on German social history from 1916 to 1924, on Weimar Germany in the Second and Third Internationals, bibliographical materials, and his microfilm runs of various newspapers in this period have been donated to the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace, Stanford, California 94305. Further enquiries concerning them should be directed to Vera Wheeler, 10927 Barman Avenue, Culver City, California 90230.

John H. M. Laslett