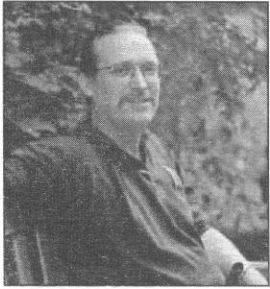


IN MEMORIAM
Bradley P. Dean
1954–2006

Bradley P. Dean died of a massive heart attack on 14 January 2006, leaving a son and his wife, the accomplished poet Debra Kang Dean. Born 4 February 1954 at the Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, Brad served a stint in the military service and worked in the real world, both of which gave him a sense of responsibility and a true understanding of deadlines, as well as a lack of sympathy for academic silliness. His 1984 master's thesis at Eastern Washington University



SCOT MILLER

studied the early "Life without Principle" manuscripts, and assumed legendary status among Thoreauvians and textual editors for its accuracy and brilliant reconstruction of the manuscript. Brad's 1993 dissertation at the University of Connecticut, a textual study of the "Dispersion of Seeds" manuscripts, formed the basis for *Faith in a Seed* (1993). His other books were editions of Thoreau's *Wild Fruits* (2000) and *Letters to a Spiritual Seeker* (2004), Thoreau's correspondence with H. G. O. Blake.

He served both as editor of the *Thoreau Research Newsletter* and *Thoreau Society Bulletin*. Brad was working on Thoreau's unpublished "Indian Notebooks" at the time of his death.

Brad's detective work in tracking down Thoreau's sources and other materials about his life and those of his contemporaries made him universally recognized as the person who knew the most about Thoreau's biography, and one of the two or three people best informed about Thoreau's

compositional habits. Brad's computer expertise as unsurpassed by anyone else working on the Concord circle, and all scholars are in his debt for the superb work he did as Director of the Media Center at the Thoreau Institute for finding, scanning, and mounting thousands of documents relating to Thoreau and Emerson on the Institute's Web site; indeed, I believe it fair to say that all the intellectual content on the Institute's Web site is the result of Brad's work or those of his friends whom he got to contribute to it. Brad was also instrumental in making Eugene Irey's concordance to Emerson's writings first available and later in arranging for it to be mounted on the Concord Free Public Library's Web site.

I met Brad over twenty years ago, when he and his wife were having lunch with Tom Blanding and Marilyn Blaisdell on the porch of their house in Concord. I sometimes think Brad and I became friends not just because we liked Emerson and Thoreau, but because I too was interested in stab holes, and Brad was starved for an audience on that subject. I still have somewhere his chart of watermarks in the papers that Thoreau used for his writings, another interest that he and I shared in the face of much scorn, real or seemingly humorous. Brad had a guileless enthusiasm for Thoreau, tempering his delight in reading him with his scholarly rigor in studying him. He was a great scholar, whose published writings gave us new texts and new ways of looking at existing texts, as well as a string of interesting shorter pieces on how Thoreau's reading and travels affected his intellectual life and his writings. Brad was also a superb resource for all scholars, always willing to answer questions.

Brad's early death stunned us all, and I hate like hell to write about him in the past tense.

—Joel Myerson

The Emerson Journals Digital Archive

The Ralph Waldo Emerson Institute is pleased to announce the completion of a two-year project: the publication of the ten-volume Emerson *Journals*, originally published from 1904 to 1914 and edited by Edward Emerson. The Archive, comprising over 5,000 pages of material, has been scanned and edited by the Institute staff and is being offered for sale on CD in Acrobat Reader PDF files, conveniently searchable and printable. The price for the CD is \$75, including postage and handling; it can be purchased through the Web site at www.rwe.org. In addition, the ten volumes will be available in February through online booksellers as eBooks, at a per volume price of \$7.50.

The Digital Journals are made available through the generosity of supporting members of the Ralph Waldo Emerson Institute, New York, N.Y., and now join the Centenary Edition

of the *Complete Works* and other Emerson-related materials featured on the Web site.

Important note for the academic community: In the Introduction to the Archive, users are reminded that the 1904–14 *Journals* are not definitive or complete and that the 16-volume Harvard University Press edition of the *JMN* represent the authoritative record and should be consulted prior to use in books, articles, dissertations, or formal papers. The present Digital Archive will nonetheless serve as a valuable tool in research and will further interest in Emerson's life and work among the reading public.

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