

David Brennan

Colleagues will be very sorry to learn of the unexpected death, in June 2020, of David Brennan, Institute Support Officer in the Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS) in the School of Medicine. The following notice has been contributed by colleagues and friends from the LIHS.

David joined the University in July 1993, becoming a member of what was then, the Nuffield Institute for Health Research, based in Fairbairn House. David supported the evolution and growth of the department to what is now the Leeds Institute of Health Sciences for nearly 27 years.

As Institute Support Officer, David ensured the smooth running of the Institute but was quick to remind us that he came to work each day “wearing his University of Leeds hat”. He was proud to work for the University and throughout his career David’s integrity and dedication was a constant.

David’s commitment to his work and exceptional willingness to support others saw him regularly nominated for the University’s Recognition scheme. He was also passionate about collective values and workplace equality serving as a Union representative for many years. Outside of work, David enjoyed a rich mix of interests including football (Leeds United), film, quizzes, wildlife and cooking. He had a passion for northern soul music, with many longstanding friendships formed upon the dancefloor. David loved to share these interests with people. Whether it was a friendly debate over this week’s episode of Strictly Come Dancing or sharing photos of the wildlife that visited his garden, he became a witty, kind friend to so many.

Above all David was a proud husband to Kate and father to Sid and Bradley; his face would beam when he spoke about them, which he did often.

David was a longstanding cornerstone of the department, everyone’s go-to person, and a valued professional. He formed close friendships with colleagues in LIHS and across the University of Leeds and his loss will be deeply felt by so many.

A funeral was held on the 15 July 2020.