

## Obituary

### Robert Modler

January 24, 1940 – May 5, 2016

Robert Modler, a long-time resident of Palo Alto, died peacefully at home on May 5.

He was born in Oak Park Illinois on January 24, 1940, the second son of John Modler and Helene Witek, and grew up in Chicago. He graduated from Taft High School and studied at Northwestern University where he received his Bachelor of Science degree, and the University of Minnesota, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1965.

He spent one year in Sweden as a postdoctoral fellow, where he met his wife Siv. After returning to the U.S., he spent a year as a postdoctoral fellow at University of Illinois Chicago Circle, and then a year teaching as Visiting Assistant Professor at Lewis & Clark College. While at Lewis & Clark, Robert developed a deep love for the Pacific Northwest — Central Oregon in particular — that would endure until the end of his life.

He often visited Black Butte Ranch where he owned a share of a home.

From 1968, he worked in the chemical industry in Minnesota and Illinois. In 1978, he accepted a position as research chemist at SRI International in Menlo Park, where he spent the next 26



years. After the initial period as a laboratory researcher, he transferred to economic analysis in the Specialties Chemicals Department. In this position, he conducted a number of studies on the economic significance of various commercial chemical products, specializing in soaps, detergents, and other surface-active agents. In addition to establishing himself as an industry-recognized expert in the specialty chemicals area, Bob was admired by his coworkers for his easygoing, unflappable mannerism.

Family and friends mourn him. A private service was held at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto.

His wife, Siv; son, Michael; grandson, Harvey; and brother, John Modler, with family, survive him.

## Seed to Table offers art workshops

The Seed to Table Farm announces their Art in the Garden workshop series throughout the month of August.

The two-hour workshops begin at 10 a.m. at the farm on East Black Butte Avenue. Community members are invited to join local watercolor artist Kathy Deggendorfer on August 4, painters Dan Rickards and Chris Nelson on August 18, and local fabric artist Valori Wells on August 25, for a workshop on block printing.

All workshops are followed by a farm-fresh lunch from the goodies at Seed to Table. A \$30 suggested donation will hold your space in a workshop of your choosing. Materials are not included.

Monies raised from the Art in the Garden series will benefit the Seed to Table program.

“There is so much inspiration in the garden,” said Audrey Tehan, Seed to Table coordinator. “I am looking forward to the unique pieces of art our local community members will come up with



PHOTO PROVIDED

Seed to Table will host Art in the Garden.

“I am looking forward to the unique pieces of art our local community members will come up with in each of these classes.”

— Audrey Tehan

in each of these classes.”

Seed to Table connects food, wellness and education

through providing access to nutritious foods and offering opportunities in garden-based wellness education. They pride themselves on engaging students and the community in positive food relations; involving students and adults in garden-based education encompassing nutrition, environmental science, art, and the basics of gardening.

For more information on the Art in the Garden Program or Seed to Table contact Audrey Tehan at 541-480-9039 or [audrey.tehan@sisters.k12.or.us](mailto:audrey.tehan@sisters.k12.or.us).

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