



## Dhyanaadabhiram Saikia

October 1, 1937 - October 18, 2021

Dhyanaadabhiram Saikia, age 84, died on Monday, October 18, 2021 with his family by his side at Manor Care nursing home in Libertyville, Illinois after a prolonged hospital stay.

He is survived by his wife, Rupali (Kakoti) Saikia; his daughter, Prita (Saikia) Wadhwani; his son-in-law, Sabir Prem Wadhwani; his granddaughter, Maya Wadhwani; his brothers Shyam Saikia, Pratul Saikia; and his sister Dipti (Saikia) Borah. He is predeceased by his mother, Swarnalata Saikia; and his father, Kaliram Saikia.

Dhyana was born and raised in the northwest district of Nagoan in the state of Assam, India, and lived during the end of the Indian independence movement which his father was a part of as a Freedom Fighter. He excelled in his studies and received numerous scholarships to pursue his advanced education. His first adventure away from home was at Baroda University. He then came home to find an admission letter to the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur to pursue his Masters Degree. He did so well in his studies that the head of the department offered him an associate lecturer position where he taught subjects like history of architecture, planning and management to undergraduate students for one year.

Dhyana's understanding of the important role Greece played in the history in

architecture inspired an interest to study there. He was offered a scholarship through the notable architect, Aris Konstantinidis, who he had come to admire. This is when he quit his lecturer job to go to Greece for two years. He loved this time in his life. Decades later, Dhyhan would get a kick out of surprising restaurant staff in Greek restaurants by speaking to them in Greek.

In order to use the knowledge he worked so hard to acquire, he headed to the United States where city planning was more popular. He married Rupa in February, 1968 and they came back to build a life together, ultimately landing in Sewickley, PA, suburb of Pittsburgh as he started his career in America working for Michael Baker Engineering, then Green Engineering then retiring from this first phase of his career at Allegheny County where he worked on projects like the Pittsburgh International Airport.

Phase two led him to pick up some textbooks again where he felt “most at home”. He studied programming and worked hard to earn certificates in applications like Oracle. At the end of the day, Dhyhan was an academic and a theologian who loved to spend time talking about religion.

He and Rupa finally retired and moved to Vernon Hills, IL to be close to Sabir and Prita when Maya was born. He was a wonderful grandfather who would have given the world to Maya if he could. They celebrated every birthday, holiday and other daily special moments together for the last 11 years. His dry and surprising sense of humor, endearing idiosyncrasies, and immense love for his family will be deeply missed. Each memory of every day will be cherished by his family.

Private funeral services will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

For those that wish to view live funeral footage, click link below beginning at 1pm on Wednesday, Oct. 20:

<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/5913117911>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Burnett-Dane Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Dhyana**d**abhiram Saikia*



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**Burnett-Dane Funeral Home** - October 19, 2021 at 12:50 PM



“ *Wherever a beautiful soul has been a lasting impression remains. Thank you Dhyan.*

*Doree and Bill Colter*

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**part of his family** - October 25, 2021 at 02:10 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dhyana**d**abhiram Saikia.*



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October 22, 2021 at 12:45 PM

LC

“ *Love, The Champagne's purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dhyanaabhiram Saikia.*



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**Love, The Champagne's** - October 20, 2021 at 07:34 PM

PN

“ *We had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Dhyana Saikia about 10 years ago. He was a pleasant person to converse and exchange various subject matters. In subsequent meetings I found him very humble in articulating his firm beliefs on matters of culture, religion or science and technologies etc. Before I met him in USA, I used to work for his younger brother Shyam Saikia over 10 years in India. I also happen to know his youngest brother Pratul Saikia and sister Dipti. Mr. Dhyana Saikia has been a pillar of hope for his entire family in pursuing highest education and set high high expectations and I know each one of them achieved their best. Certainly everyone, including myself and my wife will miss him. May his soul rest in peace.*

*Jegannathan and Premalatha*

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**Perumal Nathan** - October 20, 2021 at 05:10 PM

PS

“ Dear KAKAIDEO,

*On your Heavenly Departure, reflections of childhood days, days of our togetherness, keep coming to my mind: How we reared goat and cow with mother's help, how we go to school, how we played in the fields, how we sang bhajans with father, how we sung national anthems with father. ...*

*I feel sorry and repent that I was very demanding and quarreled with you many times. You, on the other hand, have been so kind and compromising all along!*

*When we were Kids you protected me along with our mother from the collapsed house in Morigaon, broken due to the earthquake.*

*You had been holding my hands all along my childhood.*

*We have witnessed together how our poor parents struggled to give us the best education to make our life better, saving money, denying all good things in life for themselves. They also taught us to be righteous and truthful.*

*Destiny has kept us apart for a major part of our life. When I visited you in Pittsburg late in 90s you took me to visit Planetarium at Pittsburg, showed me Black Hole and making of star in Universe with Hubble telescope pictures, giving a feeling of the vast Manifestation of GOD, as said in the Bhagavad Gita*

*The covid pandemic and consequent restriction by countries debarred us from visiting you in the last couple of years when we wanted to be with you in your ailment. However, Dear Preeta has been so nice to send video clips from time to time, giving us a feeling of nearness to you.*

*Whatever I said above, fall short of the feeling of loss to us now. Kakaideo , on your heavenly journey now , we pray GOD to bestow eternal peace in the heavenly abode.*

*- Pratul & Family*

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Pratul Saikia - October 20, 2021 at 04:47 PM

JL

“ Prita - I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. I remember him being very firm in making sure our schoolwork was done before we could play after school but also remember his sly humor that he would sneak in when you were least expecting it. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sad time and please give my best to your mom. I remember her always making me eat something when I was over and it was always yummy.

*Jane von Hofen Lesko*

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**Jane Lesko** - October 20, 2021 at 02:20 PM

NS

“ An amazing kind person. So thoughtful and generous. Each time I met him, I felt loved and cared by him. Miss him enormously. A gem of a person. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time and may God give them strength to bear this great loss.  
*Nita Saikia*

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**Nita Saikia** - October 20, 2021 at 01:56 PM

NS

“ Dhyan has been a part of our family for 50 years. We have too many memories to share.  
*We have laughed and cried with the family. We will miss his smiles and frowns.  
Loved him so much.*

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**nancy scafoglio** - October 20, 2021 at 12:14 PM

PW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



prita wadhvani - October 20, 2021 at 12:09 PM

PW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



prita wadhvani - October 20, 2021 at 12:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dhyana**d**abhiram Saikia.



October 20, 2021 at 09:50 AM

SV

“ Stephani Victor purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Dhyana**d**abhiram Saikia.



Stephani Victor - October 20, 2021 at 12:41 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dhyanaabhiram Saikia.*



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October 20, 2021 at 12:32 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*

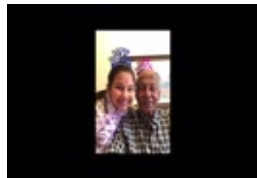


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**Stephani Victor** - October 20, 2021 at 12:16 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**prita wadhvani** - October 20, 2021 at 12:01 AM

PW

“ I have not had a chance to dig through the boxes of photos I have, but I wanted to share with you these handful of more recent happy days and moments in this video.



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**prita wadhvani** - October 19, 2021 at 11:40 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Dhyanaabhiram Saikia.



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October 19, 2021 at 11:13 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dhyanaabhiram Saikia.



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October 19, 2021 at 02:16 PM