

# Wendell G. Addington

Wendell G. Addington died from cancer in his Indian Village home on Thursday, October 13. He was 69.

Addington was born in Dallas and grew up in Lubbock, Texas, where he was an Eagle Scout and the captain of the high school debate team. In 1950 he earned a degree in Economics from the University of Texas at Austin.

Addington was prominent in the housing industry and in the civil rights movement. Throughout his life he worked to assure that affordable housing was available to all Michigan citizens. In 1966 he was instrumental in establishing the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

An activist and a historian Addington was a lifelong supporter of human rights. In 1947 he helped establish the first chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) at an all-white Southern university. He took part in numerous civil rights actions including Dr. Martin Luther King's march from Selma to Montgomery. The last demonstration he attended was the 1993 March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian and Bi-sexual rights.

Addington was a member of the Detroit chapter of the National Leather Association, the L & L Society of Michigan, and the Church of Mankind in San Francisco. He could often be seen at the Detroit Eagle in his leather attire.

A Detroit resident since 1963, Addington is survived by his wife, three sons, two daughters, five grand children, and many friends.

A Memorial Service is planned for Saturday, October 22 at 10:30 am at the Plymouth United Church, 600 East Warren near I-75 in Detroit. Memorial contributions should be made to the Michigan Cancer Foundation.