

OBITUARY

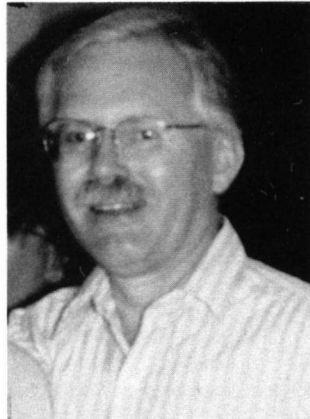
CHARLES A. BRIDGES, III

A short biography of C.A. Bridges, III (born Sept. 17, 1941, San Diego, California, USA; deceased Jan. 21, 1995, Champaign, Illinois, USA; amateur odonatologist and lepidopterist, staff member at the Computer-based Education Research Laboratory, University of Illinois, Champaign) and a brief description of his entomological work are followed by an odonatological bibliography.

On January 21, 1995, CHARLES A. BRIDGES, III, died at his office in Champaign, Illinois. He had been employed as a computer specialist at the Computer-based Education Research Laboratory (CERL), University of Illinois, since 1980. Although Charles had no formal training in taxonomy or entomology he was highly respected by professional entomologists who knew of his endeavors.

Charles (Butch) Bridges, the eldest of a family of five, was born in San Diego, California on September 17, 1941, to Charles Albert Bridges, Jr. and Lucy Lee, both of Massachusetts. He graduated from the Hanover High School in New Hampshire in June, 1959, and completed a B.S. in Physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June, 1963. He received an M.S. degree from the University of Illinois in 1965 in Physics with an emphasis on Elementary Particle Physics and Astronomy.

In 1970 Charles joined the Sacramento Peak Solar Observatory team in Sunspot, New Mexico and served as a general physical scientist as well as a systems analyst/senior scientific programmer to assist in the operation of the solar telescope. In 1980 he accepted a position at the University of Illinois as an assistant specialist at the CERL, the facility which had invented and operated one of the first and largest computer-based educational systems in the USA. Charles was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, and was also an enthusiastic dancer at the Regent Ballroom in Savoy, Illinois.



Charles is survived by two sisters and two brothers: Martha Bridges of Wildomer, California; Christine Piane, of East Granby, Connecticut; Joseph Bridges of Vershire, Vermont; and Lee Bridges of London, England.

As a member of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas and The Lepidopterists' Society, he will be remembered in high regard for his exhaustive computer-based catalogues on Odonata and Lepidoptera. He had a continuing interest in insects beginning in childhood and enjoyed collecting, identifying, and curating his collection throughout his life. Combining his mastery of main frame computer programming with his deep interest in entomology, he devoted much of his free time to searching through the literature and entering the data to generate his massive catalogues of names. Many hours were spent photocopying, hauling books to the binder, and filling book orders. Although his interest in Odonata began at an early age, his contributions to odonatology were not evident until the first catalog was produced in 1991, followed by a second revision in 1993. His third revision of the *Catalogue of the family-group, genus-group, and species-group names of the Odonata of the World* (December 31, 1994; xlvi + 905 pp.) not only contains alphabetized, indexed listings of all of the group names and bibliographic citations to date, but also includes 824 wing venation figures (from the literature). Revisions also were completed in late 1994 for two of the Lepidoptera catalogues. These references will remain important research tools for systematic entomologists for years to come. Plans are underway to provide permanent storage of the computer files, so that they will be accessible for future revisions.

ODONATOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES A. BRIDGES, III

- 1991 *Catalogue of the family-group, genus-group, and species-group names of the Odonata of the World*. C.A. Bridges, Urbana, xxxvii+704 pp. – [1 June; 1st ed.]
- 1993 *Catalogue of the family-group, genus-group, and species-group names of the Odonata of the World*. C. A. Bridges, Urbana, xxxvii+762 pp., col. frontispiece. – [1 Feb.; 2nd, revised & updated ed.]
- 1994 *Catalogue of the family-group, genus-group, and species-group names of the Odonata of the World*. C.A. Bridges, Urbana, xlvi+905 pp., 824 figs. incl., col. frontispiece. – [31 Dec.; 3rd, revised & updated ed.]

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