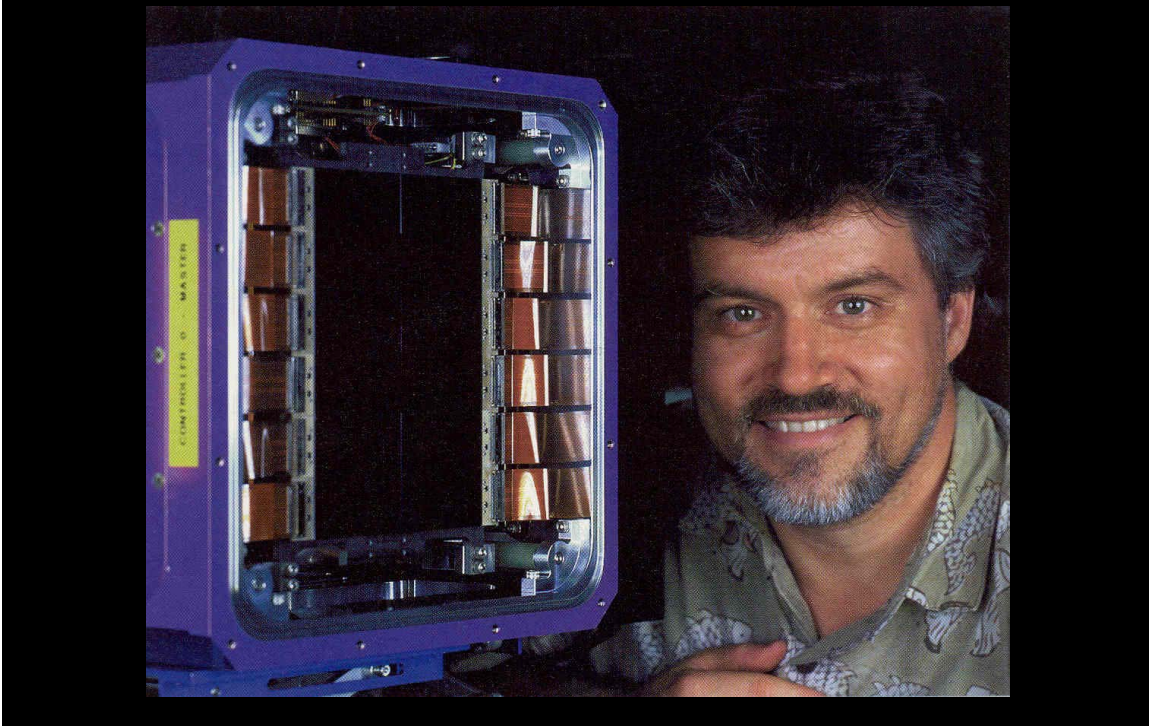


Gerry Luppino 8K x 12K CCD Camera



Friends,

We grieve the tragic and sudden death of former IfA astronomer Gerard Anthony “Gerry” Luppino. Gerry was on the IfA faculty from 1990 until 2008, when he left to devote his full time and energy to his spin-off company GL Scientific (GLS). Gerry played a major role in the development of large-format astronomical CCD instruments at IfA and has started the collaboration with MITLL to develop the CCD technology. His pioneering work on the 8K camera at the UH 88” and the CFHT 12K camera played an important role in the Maunakea contribution to the discovery of the accelerated expansion of the universe and also laid the ground work for the development of the Pan-STARRS Gigapixel cameras, the largest cameras in the world. He also played an important role in the development of the HAWAII infrared arrays for the James Webb Space Telescope. His company GLS up to today is one of the jewels of technology development in Hawaii and has contributed significantly to many of our modern instruments.

I came to know Gerry personally in the late 1990s, when we did multi-object spectroscopy of optical counterparts in the ROSAT deep X-ray survey in the Lockman Hole, and were in dire need of good photometric and astrometric information over a large field. He gave me access to his wonderful 8K image of the Lockman Hole, which was really a transformation and game changer for our

work. Our colleague Doug Simons has a much longer and deeper relation with Gerry, and I quote here from a recent message he sent to the CFHT staff: "I have vivid memories of Gerry arriving at the IfA in a blue Miata convertible, positively bristling with energy and enthusiasm. He lived life to the fullest – a passion that was reflected in the energy of GLS. Derrick and I visited GLS a few months ago, in downtown Honolulu, and were amazed at the advanced milling machines he has at his facility, and the countless components being fabricated for projects destined for observatories across the globe. GLS felt like a "beehive" of excitement, typified by the Gerry's high performance motorcycle, parked inside the office, next to his desk. Through Gerry's many contributions to CFHT instrumentation he was an important part of our 'ohana (http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/Reference/Library/Oral_History_2/oral_luppino_gerry.html) and will be sorely missed."

The service for Gerry will be held this Saturday. Visitation: 3 p.m. April 2 at Nuuanu Memorial Park & Mortuary. Services: 4:30 p.m. Aloha attire.

Guenther Hasinger