

Alexandre François

Prof. Andrew Pawley had in-depth knowledge of many Pacific languages – including Kalam (PNG), Wayan Fijian, Samoan, New Zealand Māori, NZ English... He loved speaking them, understanding them, reflecting on what these different languages could tell us about the human faculty of language, or about their people's history.

While he was always smart and wise, Andy was also the kindest person I've ever met.

I had the privilege to spend a lot of time with him during my years in Canberra. We regularly had lunch together, talking about Pacific archaeology and etymologies... With his wife Medina, he always enjoyed spending time with my family, designing treasure hunts for my children, taking them on excursions with his own grandchildren



Andy will be sorely missed by all those who knew him.
Pacific linguists have lost an inspiring scholar.

And I have lost a beloved friend.

