Remembering Pace School of Education Professor Ainsley Adams

Most of us are lucky enough to have experienced “that teacher” in our lifetimes. The one who inspired us to do great things; to challenge ourselves in ways that we may not have even thought were possible. “That teacher” made us think, made us understand our own intentions better, realize our abilities, and made us learn about ourselves. For many students at the School of Education, “that teacher” was Professor Ainsley Adams.

Professor Adams was the one to look out for because he was going to make you work harder than you may have had to work before. That said you were destined to come out of his classes a little stronger, a little more compassionate; and, overall, a better teacher because you could understand what it felt like, not only to teach, but to be a student. You learned by doing. You became that fourth grade student presenting in front of the class, and you experienced the nerves, the drive, and the uncertainty that any fourth grader would feel. He presented you with an arsenal of tools and skills that were invaluable when you stepped into your own classroom.

He was the teacher we all hoped we could become. For those of you who were able to experience Professor Adams as a teacher, colleague, or friend, you know what I mean when I say that he was truly a gift. Those touched by him carry his presence, his knowledge, his way, and his understanding of what it means to really reach and connect with people. It may sound trite, but I’d like to think that we all have the ability to carry Ainsley Adams with us into the classroom, because it would make the world a better place.

It is with great sadness that I write about Ainsley Adams’ passing this weekend. He was surrounded by his family in Trinidad and passed away quietly in his sleep. It is truly an understatement to say that he will be missed.

**Funeral services will be held:**

Monday, August 3, 2015
10:00 a.m. (with a repast to follow immediately after)
Holy Name of Mary Church
110 Grand Street
Croton-on-Hudson, NY

The SOE will be compiling a digital memory book dedicated to the spirit of Ainsley Adams. Please reach out to jargenta@pace.edu with any stories about your experience with Professor Adams or thoughts about his passing.