

A Great Spirit Surveys Our Ghost of a Chance

Written by Alex Baer

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If you've ever wished for a reasonable summary to help explain the inane and insane seas we're all left navigating, your wish has come true: First, you should know, one man, the explanation's author, has died.

The man was writer and editor Ernest Callenbach. He died April 16 at 83. You may know him from the "Ectopia" books, or from the journal he edited, "Film Quarterly." He wrote, lectured, walked, gardened, and occasionally taught film classes. He was an advocate of Earth and of simple, and simplified, living.

The "Los Angeles Times" had this to say of him: "The newest name after Wells and Verne and Huxley and Orwell is Ernest Callenbach, creator of 'Ectopia.'"

His website offers a short item that might pique your interest, "Earth's Ten Commandments." It is in keeping with his views, and seems an entirely reasonable, rational, and responsible series of thoughts, for those who are still able to respond in a similar way.

His summary of the joys and miseries of being human -- an excellent, 50-thousand-foot view of things -- was found on his computer after his death: "Epistle to the Ectopians." It was a piece he had written, his own death keenly in view.

Instead of our awkward descriptions of his brilliant summary of truth as he saw it toward his own end, we'll simply and strongly suggest you spare a few moments to hear the voice of a great spirit, surveying our ills, noticing delights, and suggesting good paths for our own best ghost of a chance.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ernest-callenbach/epistle-to-the-ecotopians_b_1495948.html

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernest_Callenbach

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<http://www.ernestcallenbach.com/Home+contact.html>

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