



Tribute to Craig Kletzing - his fascination with plasma waves and the upcoming TRACERS mission

David M Miles⁽¹⁾

(1) Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, 52242, email: david-miles@uiowa.edu

Craig Kletzing, Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Iowa, died peacefully at home on August 10, 2023. Craig had a decorated career in experimental space plasma physics and was also an enthusiastic educator and mentor who left a legacy of students and collaborators. We present a tribute to Craig and his enduring fascination with plasma waves. His research ranged from collaborating on laboratory experiments of electron acceleration by Alfvén waves, many sub-orbital sounding rocket campaigns, and a multitude of space missions including the Van Allen Storm Probes. Craig's culminating project, the Tandem Reconnection and Cusp Electrodynamics Reconnaissance Satellites (TRACERS), was selected by NASA in 2019 as a Small-Explorers mission to use the Earth's northern magnetospheric cusp to study how dayside magnetic reconnection links the solar-wind to near-Earth Space. TRACERS, now scheduled to launch in 2025, will carry Craig's curiosity into space one last time.