

just at the right moment as it reaches Earth someone looks at the right bit of sky and sees it. It just seems right that an event of that magnitude should be witnessed.”

In 1990 Bob became a trustee of the Linden Observatory after the observatory was left in Trust by the Australian telescope maker Ken Beames in 1989 for the purpose of education in astronomy. He was the longest-serving trustee, and his tenure brought much needed stability to the observatory and the work to conserve the site for future generations of amateur astronomers.

As anyone who shared the observing field with Bob will attest, his knowledge of the sky and ability to use a telescope to find and observe galaxies was extraordinary. Bob’s abilities as a visual observer were unique, and in this age of computerized telescopes and cameras, there may never be another quite like him. The astronomical community was privileged to have him as a member, and he will be sorely missed.

Bob Evans passed away on 2022 November 8, aged 85, following a short illness. He is survived by his wife and four daughters. — IAN BRIDGES.

[Editorial note: The Editors are grateful for the assistance of Professor F. G. Watson.]

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### Here and There

#### A DEGREE OF ERROR

Campi Flegri’s biggest eruption, which happened 36,000 years ago, wasn’t quite large enough to qualify as ‘super’, but it was still Europe’s greatest volcanic blast in at least 200,000 years. It dumped ash across the Mediterranean region and spawned a bitter volcanic winter across Europe, with temperatures reduced by up to 9 C (48·2 F). — *BBC Science Focus*, 2024 July, p. 70.