Horace “Skip” Hagg died December 9, 2013 in Tampa, Florida. Skip was a longtime staff member at Georgia State University’s Language Research Center, serving as its skilled metalworker for many years. It is common to say that people “helped build the LRC into what it is today,” but this is literally true in Skip’s case: Even today, many years after his retirement, there is scarcely a building, a play-yard, or an animal housing structure that doesn’t bear his handiwork. A master welder and metalworker, Skip’s skills are legend—as are his interactions with the people and animals of the LRC! Truly larger than life, with a heart to match, Skip’s good work, playful personality, colorful vocabulary, physical strength and toughness, and creativity made a lasting impression on all who knew him, and a significant and enduring contribution to the Language Research Center.

Skip Hagg playing chase with “the gorilla” in a stimulus photograph for the LRC language-trained apes