[163, 4571, 1959, 2018, 2, 0, 13]

By: Wentao Lu

Riched Allen Askey was born in 1933 June 4th and died in 2019 October 9th. He is an American mathematician who was famous for special functions. About his education, he earned a B.A. at Washington University in 1955, and M.A. at Harvard University in 1956, and a Ph.D. at Princeton University. His doctoral advisor is Saloman Bochner and his doctoral students is James A. Wilson. After graduating, he worked as an instructor at Washington University and University of Chicago, then he joined University of Wiscornsin-Madison as a assistant professor in 1963.

Askey explained why hypergeometric functions appear so frequently in mathematical applications, he was also very much involved with commenting and writing on mathematical education at American schools. A well-known article by him on this topic is Good Intentions are not Enough.