



Being Alive

Evolutions in Being P.O. Box 4008 Chelmsford, MA. 01824 Eibeing.com 978-256-0438

Elaine Ingham

Elaine Ingham who Taught That Soil is Alive, dies at 73

Elaine Ingham, a soil scientist who got growers to see the earth beneath their feet as a web of life teeming with biological activity, not simply as dirt, influencing farmers and gardeners to sow and protect crops without chemicals, died Feb. 16 in Fort Mill, S.C. She was 73.

Her death, in a memory care residence, followed a diagnosis of dementia last year, her daughter, Jenna Noel, said.

Ingham, a leader in the organic gardening and farming movement, popularized the concept of the “soil food web,” an understanding that soil is a complex realm of microscopic organisms. Her research upended a common view that a plant simply sucks nutrients through its roots like a straw. She showed that plants actively orchestrate an underground world. Plant roots exude sugars to attract bacteria and fungi, which in turn nourish the roots and protect them from parasites. Protozoa and nematodes also play crucial roles in the soil food web.

“Dr. Elaine is largely responsible for the understanding by gardeners and farmers that soil is alive,” Jeff Lowenfels, a gardening writer, wrote in *The Anchorage Daily News* after Ingham’s death, using an affectionate nickname. Her ideas were also spread through a book she helped write, “Soil Biology Primer,” published by the Soil and Water Conservation Society; and, especially, through the Soil Food Web School, which she founded in 2014.

Ingham suggested that her relationship with administrators at Oregon State led her to leave academia to run her consulting business full time. She said her opposition to genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, in the food supply clashed with the agricultural business sector, whose interests influenced university research and teaching.

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Ingham said the modified bacteria, which had been engineered to convert plant waste into alcohol, killed wheat plants in the laboratory. She added that research published by her and her student had effectively halted a field test of the GMO that had been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

“This could have been the single most devastating impact on human beings, since we should likely have lost corn, wheat, barley, vegetable crops, trees, bushes, etc.,” she said. “Conceivably all terrestrial plants.”

Throughout her career, she criticized the widespread farming trope that crops could only flourish with ample synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. She advocated making organic compost tailored to local soils.

“Mother Nature,” she said, “figured out this system for keeping everything properly balanced approximately 4 billion years ago.”

The Onion to Take Control of Infowars

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Aran Parnas Gives the Good News

- A 6-year-old boy named Bryce Morrison celebrated his release from Blythedale Children's Hospital with a heartfelt "clap out" ceremony after spending over a year receiving treatment. Known for his uplifting personality, Bryce inspired staff and fellow patients during his stay while overcoming serious health challenges. His progress included improvements in mobility, communication, and breathing support. The emotional send-off marked both a joyful return home and a bittersweet goodbye to the hospital community.
- A gas station clerk, Abdulrahman Abohatem, helped stop an alleged kidnapping after noticing something was wrong between a man and a teenage girl. When the girl silently signaled for help, he intervened, separated them, and alerted police, leading to the suspect's arrest. The teen, who had been abducted earlier, was safely reunited with her family. His quick thinking and awareness played a key role in preventing a potentially serious crime.
- Kirk Moore is being hailed as a hero after stopping an armed intruder at Pauls Valley High School. When a former student entered the school with guns, Moore confronted and tackled him, even after being shot in the leg, preventing a potential mass shooting. Staff members helped restrain the suspect until police arrived, and no students were injured. Authorities say the principal's quick actions likely saved lives.
- Ali Riza Dogan, owner of Ali Baba Mediterranean Cuisine, has spent years helping homeless people by providing free meals and shelter. Every week, he distributes food across New York City and even keeps his restaurant's entryway open overnight so people can stay warm. Inspired by his own past struggles as an immigrant, he continues the effort without accepting donations, driven purely by compassion. His actions highlight a commitment to treating everyone with dignity and kindness.
- A man named Frank Ozimek made a final wish to thank his hospice nurses by treating them to a meal after weeks of cancer care. His brother struggled to find an open restaurant on Easter until Tommy Milani stepped in and postponed his own plans to prepare and deliver food. The gesture fulfilled Frank's wish to give back and deeply touched his family. The story highlights compassion and generosity during a difficult moment.
- Stephen Spencer, a music teacher in New York City, turned his 3-year-old daughter's imaginative stories into catchy songs that have gone viral online. By transforming her playful ideas into polished music, he has gained a large following and millions of listens on social media. The project began as a fun father-daughter activity and grew into a widely loved creative collaboration. Their songs have resonated with audiences for their charm, nostalgia, and heartfelt creativity.

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- High school sweethearts Kelsey Dixon and Wes Dixon planted a cherry tree as teenagers and have taken yearly photos with it ever since. Years later, the tree unexpectedly sprouted new offshoots around the same time Kelsey became pregnant, creating a symbolic connection that captivated millions online. The couple’s story of love and growth resonated widely, leading Kelsey to write a children’s book inspired by the experience. It’s a simple but powerful tale linking family, tradition, and nature.
- A woman named Lorraine Bullar rescued an injured seagull that had been trapped in fishing line for over five hours in a lake near the Irish Sea. Despite the cold water, she swam about 50 feet to reach the exhausted bird and bring it safely back to shore. With help from a wildlife rescue team, the hook was removed and the gull—nicknamed “Patience”—received medical treatment. The rescue was praised as a strong example of teamwork and compassion. Maryland is set to become the first U.S. state to ban “surveillance pricing,” where retailers use personal data to charge different customers different prices for the same item. The new law will prohibit grocery stores from adjusting prices based on individual data, though it still allows promotions and loyalty program pricing. Supporters say the measure protects consumers from unfair practices, while critics argue it contains loopholes and weak enforcement. The law is expected to take effect in October 2026, with other states considering similar legislation.
- Pedestrian deaths in the United States dropped by nearly 11% in the first half of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024, marking the largest decline since tracking began in 2015. This decrease represents 371 fewer fatalities and the lowest rates this decade when adjusted for population and travel. Data from the Governors Highway Safety Association also shows regional differences, with southern states experiencing higher fatality rates, partly due to darker, rural roads. While progress is encouraging, officials stress that the ultimate goal is to reduce traffic deaths to zero.
- Jaydon Cintron, a worker at Chick-fil-A in North Carolina, found nearly \$10,000 in cash left in a restroom and chose to turn it in rather than keep it. The money was returned to its rightful owner, who offered him a reward, but Cintron initially refused, saying he simply wanted to do the right thing. He credited his faith and values for guiding his actions. The story highlights honesty and integrity in an everyday situation.
- Chicago Public Schools has expanded a program that turns every student ID into a library card for the Chicago Public Library. The initiative, called the 81 Club, significantly increased library use—especially among disadvantaged students—by removing barriers to access. Students can now use their IDs to access millions of books and digital resources across all library locations. Officials say the program helps ensure equal access to educational materials regardless of background or location.

Edgar Cayce

Wednesday, May 6

"To the subconscious, there is no past or future - all present."
ECRL 136-54

Monday, May 4

"Failure to anyone should be as a stepping-stone and not as a
millstone."
Edgar Cayce reading 931-1

Tuesday, April 21

"Stay close to nature, close to those activities in every form of exercise
that breathes in the deep ozone and the beauty of nature. For you may
breathe it into your own soul, as you would a sunset or a morning sun
rising."
ECRL 3374-1

Thursday, April 30

"Seek; for only the seeker may find."
Edgar Cayce reading 499-2

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