



Robert G. Mickey

June 21, 2013

Robert George Mickey, 95, passed away on June 9, 2013 at Homestead Village in Lancaster. His beloved wife of 70 years, Ann, predeceased him at the end of January.

Bob was born on May 24, 1918 in Pagosa Springs, located in the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado. He was the oldest of four children born to Max and Helen Crews Mickey. It is a stretch to picture Bob riding horseback with the sheepherders and his young friends, but an easy task to picture him working hard in the mercantile store his father managed, or devouring books and his schoolwork.

Bob graduated from the University of Denver in 1939 with a major in International Relations. In 1942, he earned his Bachelors of Divinity at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley and was ordained to the ministry of the Congregational Church. He met and fell in love with Ann Welch while he was a Student Associate at her church in Oakland. After Ann graduated with an Economics degree from UCal Berkeley, they were married. They departed by train to New Haven, CT where Bob was enrolled at the Yale Divinity School.

While a student from 1942 to 1946, Bob accepted an interim position as Minister in Charge of the Mystic, CT Congregational Church. These were busy and happy years for the young couple. In 1946, they left for New York, Union

Theological Seminary and Columbia University. Bob's first teaching post was at Colgate University.

Ann and Bob came to Lancaster in 1950. Bob initially taught half a course load in the Dept. of Religion, serving also as campus minister responsible for Chapel, the student Y and the pre-theological students. Ministerial standing was granted by the Evangelical and Reformed Church. In the mid 1950's Bob taught full time in the classroom and rose in ranks to Professor of Religious Studies, retiring in 1985.

Living on Lemon Street, near F&M and St. Peter's UCC, Ann and Bob's active household welcomed friends, colleagues and students. In 1952 they welcomed their daughter Sarah and in 1954, their son David. Bob and Ann were lifelong doting parents! Birthdays, holidays, graduations and get-togethers throughout each year kept Granddaddy and Nana extra happy people.

Ann and Bob traveled after their retirement, to England and Wales (family history) to the Pacific Northwest, New England and the South. They visited Israel and Palestine and celebrated their 50th anniversary with a 2-week family trip to New Mexico and Colorado.

Bob is survived by his sister Mary Davis and sister-in-law Elaine Mickey; daughter Sarah Moore (Glenn); daughter-in-law Maria Mickey; grandsons Greg Moore (Melanie), Alan Moore (Kristin) and Kale Millisock; nieces and nephews and their children. He was preceded in death by his brothers Joe and Ray, his son David and his wife Ann.

Bob Mickey was a remarkable gentleman. He was a scholar, teacher and communicator. He was a caring friend, a loving husband and father. He pursued an ever expanding view of the "world" and his role within it. As a dear

colleague described him, “He remained until the end intellectually and socially engaged, following the enormous changes in his nearly century old existence with openness and curiosity.” That is well said!

Bob’s family gathered privately to remember his extraordinary life. Please share your personal memories and comments. Memorials in his name may be directed to Franklin and Marshall College.

Tribute Wall

WR

“ Dear Sarah,

About 6 weeks before your father's death, my brother Glenn and I visited him in the Homestead Health center. Though weak, he was happy to see us. We were touched by the way he expressed his thanks for our being his students, as well as for our coming. As adviser to the Student Christian Association, of which I was president, he gave unstintingly of his time and knowledge in helping the organization. My frequent meetings with him were extremely helpful, not only for the organization, but for me personally.

Each meeting was like having a private tutor. He opened new worlds for me. And he kept in touch over the years. I will miss him, his wise counsel, his intellectual vigor, and his warm encouragement. My sympathy in your grieving the loss of both parents. Bill Rader

William Rader - September 01, 2013 at 08:23 PM

WY

“ Dear Sarah,
The news of your father Bob Mickey's death touch me deep in my heart -- with sadness, yes, but also with a renewed gladness for his place and role in my life. He among all professors, staff, and fellow students at F&M College had the most profound influence on me. He took a personal interest in me, inviting me into his office as often as I would come for conversation and sometimes good counsel. Most important of all, Bob Mickey taught me about critical thinking and instilled in me a passion for critical thinking. He was a model of intellectual integrity and the strong connection between kindred and inquiring minds for me. I also know how he doted on you and your brother David in the early days of your life, as he spoke of that often. You have surely been blessed. Bob Mickey is now fully the Spirit Person who always aspired to me. Blessings to you, (Rev.) Bill Youngkin

William Youngkin - August 01, 2013 at 01:46 PM

JB

“ Dear Sarah, We were sad to hear of your father's death; we did know that he was failing before and after your mother's passing. He was an important and valued influence in Dan's and my life. I knew him when he was an advisor in the Student Christian movement in the early fifties. I was at Wilson College then and met him for the first time at Camp Michaux at an intercollegiate meeting. His was a voice that called for intellectual integrity, moral values, and justice for all. Following his life and the life of his family, sometimes remotely, sometimes in person, has been important to us over the years. His huge smile, his sharp mind, and his always remembering us made us feel loved, valued and accepted. We will miss his presence in the world. May you and your family feel always surrounded by his love. Joan Bechtel

Joan Bechtel - July 01, 2013 at 10:53 AM

LA

“ Dear Sarah, Jean and I were saddened to learn of your father's passing to another world. Since 1963 at F&M. we enjoyed the friendship of Bob and Ann, and I recall his sitting in and participating effectively in a seminar I once taught on the Age of the Great Depression. His quick mind and crisp commentary enlivened the class sharply and we all enjoyed the added perspective he brought to that period of study. We wish you and the family the best in this difficult period of time.

Sincerely, Lou and Jean Athey

Lou and Jean Athey - June 24, 2013 at 01:21 PM

FB

“ Dear Sarah -

We were so sad to read in yesterday's paper about your father. He was a remarkable man, and we (including our daughters) feel really lucky to have gotten to know him and your mother, even so late in life. Both were such warm and engaging people, and we really enjoyed visiting with them at Homestead Village. Please know that our thoughts are with you and your extended family, and we wish you peace, comfort, and hope during this undoubtedly difficult time.

Warmly,

Tim and Felicia Bechtel

(and Ellen, Marian, and Madeline)

Felicia and Tim Bechtel - June 24, 2013 at 10:50 AM