**Script: Tributes 2018**

**Stephanie Stephens Balmer**

**1968-2018**

**Stephanie Balmer** died from a reoccurrence of cancer, on Saturday, February 17, surrounded by her loving family.

She became the head of school at Harpeth Hall in Nashville, TN. in 2014 after serving as Vice President for Enrollment, Management, and Communication at Dickinson College since 2009. She also served as Associate Vice President for Enrollment and Director of Admission at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Balmer earned her PhD from the Graduate School of Education at University of Pennsylvania and her MBA from Mercer University’s Stetson School of Business and Economics.

Stephanie is remembered for her energetic presence, her personal warmth, and her extraordinary gift of communication. She loved people and they felt it. She was an ardent supporter of single gender education for girls and deeply committed to their intellectual, developmental, and social growth. She also deeply believed in and supported innovation in girls’ education. Her focus on educating the whole girl elevated programming at Harpeth Hall; encouraging resilience, wellness, and balance. In her final months, she envisioned and built a strategic plan that will ensure that Harpeth Hall remains on the leading edge of girls’ education.

She is survived by her husband Lauren and daughter Isabel,16. Stephanie Balmer was a “light” to all those who met her. No doubt, her legacy will continue to influence lives for years to come.

**Clayton G. Chambliss**

**1946-2017**

**Clayton G. Chambliss** was a graduate of Emory University and of Jacksonville University for postgraduate studies. He was awarded a Klingenstein fellowship to Columbia University. He dedicated over forty years of his life to education working at three institutions: Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield, ME, The Bolles School in Jacksonville, FL, and Sayre School in Lexington.

Chambliss was the visionary who transformed Sayre School into a 21st-century academic model, colleagues said. He was headmaster for 22 years from 1990 to 2012, and through his strategic leadership the campus was rebuilt, and an athletic complex was secured and developed.

Chambliss’s quick smile and friendly nature endeared him to friends in academic, faith and art circles, the school’s statement said. “He lived by the core values he instituted on campus: wisdom, integrity, respect, and compassion. “Clayton was intelligent, interested in everyone he met, extremely dedicated to educating youth, esteemed by the nationwide independent school community, and a real gentleman in the purest sense of the word,” said a former Sayre board member. “He hired many outstanding faculty and focused on their continuing professional development. ... he was the quintessential independent school headmaster.”

Clayton Chambliss is survived by two sons, Noland and Callis and many loving nieces and nephews.

**Joanne P. Hoffman**

**1948-2017**

**Blair has that script**

**Robert David Klarsch**

**1940-2017**

**Robert David Klarsch, “Bob”** was the beloved headmaster of Annie Wright Schools from 1983 to 2001. He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara, who taught at Annie Wright for many years. He is survived by his daughter Merritt Pulliam, son-in-law, and granddaughter, and by wife Ellen.

During his 18-year tenure at Annie Wright, Bob oversaw dramatic growth of enrollment, the endowment, faculty salaries, diversity and the campus, including the addition of the Enid Jackson Kemper Center in 1986. Bob touched many lives with his wisdom, warmth, humor, passion for education, and love for Annie Wright. He left a wonderful legacy and will be greatly missed.

**Harold Leonard Richardson**

**1927-2017**

**Robert L “Len” Richardson** passed away on September 29, 2017 at the age of ninety. He leaves his wife of 68 years, two sons and a daughter as well as granddaughters and great grandchildren. Len graduated from Phillips Academy and from [Yale University](http://www.legacy.com/memorial-sites/yale-university/?personid=186825361&affiliateID=662), and earned a graduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

His career was dedicated to independent school education. He taught at The Peddie School and at Maumee Valley Country Day School. At each of these schools he started a glee club and staged musical productions as well as teaching English.

In 1959 he became head of Scarborough School in Scarborough, New York, before becoming head of Branson School in Ross, CA in 1966. In 1971, he founded Educators Collaborative, a firm to work with boards and conduct head searches. He also served on the boards of Marin Country Day School and the Cathedral School for Boys in San Francisco.

Len's greatest joy came from his participation as a second bass in choral singing. At Yale, he was a member of the Glee Club and later sang in the San Francisco Symphony Chorus and in the chorus at the Bohemian Club in San Francisco for more than forty years.

**Richard P. Unsworth**

**1927-2016**

**Richard Unsworth** marched on Selma, provided support for the Garbage Workers' Strike, raised bail for jailed demonstrators in Birmingham, and participated in the 1964 sit-in in St. Augustine, Florida. This passion for non-violent resistance drew to two French pacifists who organized the tiny farming village to shelter Jewish refugees, especially children, during the Holocaust. Richard wrote a joint biography of them, *A Portrait of Pacifists, published in 2012.*

Richard's longest professional engagement was at Smith College, where he served for more than fifty years in several appointments--as a faculty member, as a chaplain, and as a senior fellow of the Kahn Institute for Liberal Studies.

In 1980, Richard returned to Northfield Mount Hermon, where he served as headmaster for 9 years and president for two years. NMH was deeply important to Richard because he was shaped by and believed in the school's social mission, established by its founder, and played out in its history of inclusion, internationalism, and egalitarianism.

His time as headmaster at NMH included a transformative engagement with Asian language and culture. He was President of the Critical Languages and Area Studies Consortium group that promoted the study of Asian languages in US private schools from 1987-1997. After leaving NMH, he also served with distinctionas headmaster at the Berkshire School, and as interim Chaplain at Smith College.

Richard was preceded in death by his wife and infant daughter. He is survived by a large, caring family.