

Monday, February 22, 2016. Tributes.

MS. SPEERS: Before we celebrate some wonderful people who have gone on, there was an anecdote that Tom shared with me this morning that was too appropriate not to share in advance of that.

Apparently in the news today there was mention of a woman who turned 106 years old and she had always wanted to meet the president. And so she was able to meet the president. And the First Lady, Mrs. Obama, said to her, "I want to be just like you when I grow up," to which this 106-year-old woman said, "You can. Just keep dancing."

And so as a way to segue into this beautiful part of our time together, I imagine that each of these friends and colleagues really would say to us, just keep dancing as they danced through their lives.

I am here, really, because Burch Ford could not be here. I did wonder whether it had to do with the fact that my name begins with B, because it is truly an honor for me to lead this portion of our meeting, not only because it has always been one of my favorite traditions of this organization, but also because Burch, and Blair before her, have always led us so beautifully in this realm, helping us to understand the importance of paying tribute to former or current members of The Heads Network who have died in the past year. So we pay tribute to these leaders, mentors, colleagues, and friends whose leadership helped to shape their students, their school communities, and our association.

A more detailed biography of each member can be found on The Heads Network website after this meeting.

Malcolm Coates, 1925 - 2015

So I begin with Malcolm Coates. Malcolm Coates was born in 1925 and died in 2015. Mr. Coates was a graduate of Williams College, earned his master's from the University of Pennsylvania and an honorary doctorate from Williams College for his work in school communities.

He was headmaster for a total of 35 years at Tower Hill School, Lake Forest Country Day School, and Landon School.

Upon retiring from school leadership, he served as senior consultant at Carney Sandoe for 20 years. He was a trustee for Pingree School and established the Prep@Pingree program for the enrichment of disadvantaged students. He was also the founding trustee of Esperanza School, a tuition-free independent school in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He was described as a scholar and a man of good works for those most in need.

Charles Friedlicher, 1926 - 2015

Charles Friedlicher was born in 1926 and died in 2015. Chuck Friedlicher, whom I knew personally, was the headmaster at Colorado Academy for 20 years. He is credited by their current headmaster for transforming Colorado Academy from a declining military academy to a prestigious, successful college preparatory school.

Chuck was a principal founder of the Colorado OutwardBound program and a developer of Copper Mountain Ski Resort.

After retiring from Colorado Academy, Chuck headed the Gates Foundation in Colorado and grew the Foundation from \$35 million to \$110 million, enabling them to distribute \$50 million over 17 years.

Chuck Friedlicher, a man of many gifts and talents shared to the benefit of others over his lifetime.

Nathaniel "Nat" Saltanstall, 1928 - 2015

Nathaniel Saltanstall, Nat, was born in 1928 and died in 2015. Nat Saltanstall graduated from Punaho School in 1946 and from Yale University and earned his master's from Wesleyan. That began his career in independent schools as a teacher and coach and then admissions director. He was headmaster for a total of 17 years at Lancaster Academy, Chestnut Hill Academy, and finally Ashville Country Day School, now Ashville Academy.

Nat then joined IES Consultants, spending 14 years there and conducting over 125 searches.

In his later years, he gave his leadership, time, wisdom, and physical labor to an array of not-for-profit organizations. He will be remembered for his generosity, commitment to others, and loving heart.

Thomas DeGray, 1939 - 2015

Tom DeGray was born in 1939 and died in 2015. Tom DeGray graduated from Williams College in 1961, earned his master's in mathematics from Bowdoin, and led an accomplished life as an educator. Tom served as a teacher, director of admission and headmaster at a number of independent schools, including Lawrenceville, Western Reserve Academy, Groton, and Peddie. He was a role model and inspiration to thousands of students as a teacher, coach, and headmaster.

His influence on schools that he served and the independent school community is his lasting legacy.

Matthew "Matt" Miller, 1970 - 2016

Matt Miller died recently while serving as headmaster at Park Tudor School in Indianapolis. He is survived by his wife, Mia, and two children. Previously he was assistant head for academic affairs at Isidore Newman and spent 12 years at Lawrenceville as a teacher, coach, and in various roles.

Matthew received his undergraduate degree in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew from Dickinson College, his master's at Oxford University, and a second master's from University of California Berkeley. In 2009 he received his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania in educational leadership.

Matt was remembered as an exceptional intellect who also possessed an uncanny ability to relate to everybody from kindergarten students to school custodians to Ph.D.s he conversed with in academic circles. An intellectual who devoured books, Miller is remembered as someone who loved getting lost in conversations.

Matt created an Innovator's Institute, a summer program for students and faculty that was a think tank and a place to play with big ideas.

Matt had taken a keen interest in the plans for Park Tudor's buildings and grounds, with the goal of giving the campus more natural landscaping. "He thought equally about the spaces where people would spend time between the buildings as he did within the buildings," said a trustee.

Matt was a man of tremendous intellect and keen ideas. His ability to connect with and impact his students and his school community at Park Tudor and other independent schools will be long-lasting.

John Chubb, 1954 - 2015

John Chubb. While he was not a member of this organization, we want to recognize John. He was born in 1954 and passed away in 2015. As a president of NAIS since 2013, John Chubb died in November at 61, and his ideas and initiatives were indeed, in the word John often used himself, "transformational." He believed that our nation needs schools that serve a diversity of students more successfully. As was stated in *Independent Schools* magazine, "he was just getting started with independent schools."

His previous appearance was leading and guiding transformation in public and charter schools. John was a political scientist and conducted research and think tanks, including Brookings Institute and the education sector. He helped co-found Edison Schools, and was there 15 years as chief education officer.

John was not an ivory tower theorist. He was a pragmatist and practical, as well. During his tenure at NAIS, the association unveiled Data and Analysis for School Leadership, DASL. He also started a series of research summits, the latest of which was in November on equity and social justice.

We pay tribute to John Chubb, a leader for NAIS and education throughout our nation.

REVEREND SPEERS: Remembering those people, I would invite us to take a moment in silence to breathe deeply, and I will conclude that silence with some words that come from a Jewish prayer book.

At the rising of the sun and at its going down, we remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.

As long as we live, they, too, will live, for they are now a part of us as we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share, we remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make, we remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs, we remember them.

As long as we live, they, too, will live, for they are now a part of us as we remember them.

MS. WADE: Indeed we stand on the shoulders of those who came before. So we pay tribute to them this morning. As we look at innovation, we recognize also that those who came before us, those who are sitting in this room today, make those things happen, for now and for the future.

We now face an afternoon of total enjoyment. Isn't that awesome? How many Monday afternoons have you spent in total enjoyment? So I invite you to do that. I cajole you to do that. At 12:45, the bus will leave for CIA. At 1:30 are the other two wine tours.

If you are inviting yourself to lunch, you could go to Blends; you can blend it. You can go to Crush; you can crush it. You can go to the Siena Restaurant or just go straight to the wine cave and enjoy a tasting.

That said, we will also gather tonight at 6:00 on the front hallway, the Meritage Hallway, for a reception followed by a buffet dinner. Ties are totally optional, but you are not. So let us enjoy our afternoons wherever they may take us, and come together this evening at 6:00.

Have a wonderful afternoon.