
MEMORIALS

2018 Memorials

Read during the ATLA Business Meeting on Friday, June 15, 2018

THOMAS CAMP

Read by Romulus Stefanut

Thomas Edward Camp (1929–2018) was the first full-time professional librarian at the School of Theology of the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tennessee, a position he held from 1957 to his retirement in 1993.

Born in Louisiana, Ed studied at Centenary College, Vanderbilt Divinity School, and Louisiana State University. After army service, he became circulation librarian for Bridwell Library at Perkins School of Theology. At Sewanee, he became Associate University Librarian in 1976 and was Acting University Librarian in 1981–82. Theology collections grew from about 9,000 volumes in 1957 to over 100,000 volumes in 1999, requiring him to plan a move into the University Library building. Ed built up a useful vertical file on the Episcopal Church, ecumenism, and civil rights.

Ed was active in the American Theological Library Association, the Tennessee Theological Library Association, and the American Library Association. He was secretary of ATLA for two years (1965–67).



He wrote (with Ella Aldrich) *Using Theological Books and Libraries* (Prentice-Hall, 1963).

Ed and his wife Elizabeth were leaders in desegregating public schools in Sewanee's county. He was a founding member of the Sewanee-based Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace and the Sewanee chapter of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. He served as president of the Franklin County Association for the Retarded, and he helped establish Folks at Home, assisting elderly and handicapped persons to stay in their own homes.

Ed was organist at his parish church in Sewanee for thirty years, generous contributor to many worthy causes, and a quiet helper to many.

Ed Camp died on 25 February 2018 in Sewanee.

A personal note from Jim Dunkly: I succeeded Ed Camp as Librarian of the School of Theology in 1993, and I immediately recognized the quality of his work from the quality of the collections he had amassed, but even more from the testimony of faculty, students, and graduates to the quality of Ed's remarkable service to their needs. He was very helpful to me in getting oriented to a new and demanding job, but he never once sought to interfere, though he continued to use the library himself quite regularly. As I grew into the job, my respect and appreciation for Ed Camp grew as well. It was a privilege to succeed him, and a greater privilege to know him.

MYRTA ANN LATIMER GARRETT

Read by Robert Phillips

Myrta Ann Latimer Garrett (October 13, 1924–October 3, 2015)—librarian, seminary faculty spouse, committed Christian and ecumenical Baptist—joined ATLA in 1980.

Myrta Ann's first library position was as secretary to the Librarian at Princeton Seminary in 1948–1949. After several years as a "stay-at-home mom" in Fort



Worth, Texas, and Louisville, Kentucky, she resumed her library career first as an elementary school librarian in Louisville and then as a high school librarian in Waco, Texas. After years of summer study, she completed her MLS degree at Spalding College in 1979.

In 1980, she began at Southwestern Seminary as the first full-time Serials Librarian. In 1985, she was elected to the general faculty as Director of Technical Services. Among her many accomplishments at Southwestern were moving the Serials Department into a new library and coordinating the library's four hundred thousand volume reclassification project. She first retired in 1994 but returned as part-time Serials Librarian from 1997 until 2003.

Myrta Ann is remembered by legions of friends and admirers as a woman with Southern graciousness, keen intellect, moral earnestness, and a playful spirit. She is survived by her husband of sixty-seven years, James Leo Garrett, Jr., their children, and their families. She now rests in the peace and joy of her Lord.

SETH E. KASTEN

Read by Christine Wenderoth

Seth Kasten was an amazing man: research librarian, devout Jew, organist, choir director of both Christian and Jewish music, colleague, and friend. Seth Eugene Kasten was born on November 8, 1945, to Sol and Goldie Kasten in Manhattan. He grew up in Queens, New York. He attended Harper College, which later became SUNY Binghamton, majoring in organ and choral music. (I remember he once told me that this college experience was the first time he had ventured outside of New York City, and he could not WAIT to get back to the safety of New York City! How could anyone live "out there?" he wondered.) Seth really wanted to pursue sacred music, but from a practical perspective he decided that getting a library degree would give him a way to make a living.

After college, therefore, he started at Columbia University Library School and simultaneously at the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary. Before finishing these degrees, Seth was drafted into the Army.



Seth told Drew Kadel this story: “As the draft was heating up (and this was before the lottery), Seth decided to not try to wangle a deferment, because he saw that when white kids got deferments black kids got sent to Vietnam. So, his draft board called him up and he was drafted. Now, Seth was never suited to shooting anyone (except perhaps by raising his famous eyebrow) but he persuaded his draft board to delay his induction until he finished library school, because he had been given to understand that the Army was desperate for enlisted librarians. Of course, the shortage of enlisted librarians caused the Army to do away with enlisted librarians altogether before he finished basic training ... So at the end of basic, everyone received their orders for their next assignment and Seth’s was for Advanced Infantry Training. As noted above, Seth was not suited to killing people or other living things, and Advanced Infantry Training was the last stop before the jungles of Vietnam, and probable death. But Seth heard that the chief chaplain on that massive training base where he was in Georgia needed a Chaplain’s Assistant, whose main duty was playing the organ at services. Seth arranged an interview/audition. So picture it: There is Seth in fatigues and combat boots, playing an organ audition (a Bach Chorale prelude), with his life literally depending on it!”

Seth spent the duration of his term in the Army as Chaplain’s Assistant on that base in Georgia. He then he returned to New York City, completing master’s degrees in both Library Science from Columbia and sacred music from Union Theological Seminary in 1973. Shortly thereafter, he became Assistant Reference Librarian at Union Theological Seminary, New York, working for Richard Spoor. When Spoor became Director and the library was renamed the Burke Library, Seth became the Reference Librarian. In January 1998, he became Interim Co-director of Burke along with Drew Kadel until the end of December 1999, thereafter returning to being Head Reference Librarian.

Throughout all this time, Seth organized a weekly Evensong choir at Union and directed the men’s Schola Cantorum. He was organist at the Church of the Crucifixion in Harlem (a high church, West Indian) Episcopal Church for eleven years, and later he was very active in choirs that sang for Orthodox Christian parishes.

We, of course, remember Seth as an active member of ATLA from 1979 until his retirement in 2011. He served on the Board of Directors from 1989 to 1992, the Board Member Services Committee during those years, the Nominating Committee, the Public Services Interest

Group, the Judaica Interest Group, and, most memorably, was the director of the ATLA Choir from its inception until his retirement.

Seth retired from Union in December 2011 after more than thirty-five years. At his retirement, he was described as “the soul of the Burke Library: its institutional memory, its constructive critic and fondest lover, and its most resourceful and collegially helpful research librarian ... He was a great scholar, a brilliant researcher, and a dedicated, incomparable guide to the annals of theological manuscripts, articles, books, and primary sources. He was also a friend.”

Seth was a devout Jew his whole life long. He was for many years a member of Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, and more recently of Temple Emmanuel on Fifth Avenue and B’nai Jeshurun on the Upper West Side.

While working and in retirement, Kasten enjoyed traveling with friends. Among other places, he visited ancient sites in Syria and India, relishing history and soaking up new knowledge wherever he went, and he played church organs all over Europe. Seth died in his home on June 21, 2017. He is survived by his brother, Donald and sister-in-law, Karen; and by his friend, Mim Warden.

“Even at the grave we sing our song, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!”

JOHN MEEKS

Read by Brenda Bailey-Hainer

John Meeks, ATLA Digital Products Supervisor, passed away August 19, 2017.

John joined ATLA's Production staff in 2005 to create bibliographic records that supported the growth of *ATLASerials*® (*ATLAS*®). From there, he quickly transitioned into a Metadata Analyst role, working on the *ATLA Religion Database*® (*ATLA RDB*®) and the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*® (*ATLA CPLI*®). As a supervisor, he hired and trained new metadata analysts, managed the indexing workflow, and supported content development. John was instrumental in the launch of *ATLASerials PLUS*™ (*ATLAS PLUS*™), as he managed schedules and subprojects to help ensure that the majority of the titles released started with volume 1 / issue 1.



John graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a BA in Philosophy. He received his MA at Maryknoll School Theology in New York and MTh at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

On a personal note, John served on the hiring committee when I was hired; and he provided me with tremendous support as I transitioned into my new role with ATLA. My earliest memories are of his great smile and generous nature.

We are sad to have lost one of our dear colleagues.

WILLIAM M. ROBERTS

Read by Erica Durham

William Roberts was born in Lake City, Florida, in 1923. He received a BA from Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee, and then went to Columbia University to obtain an MLIS.

During his time at Columbia University, he served as Senior Reference Assistant.

After graduation in 1956, William became the Assistant Librarian at Union Theological Seminary in New York, a position which he held from 1956 until March 1976—twenty years!—when the position was eliminated for budgetary reasons.

In 1977 he became Director of the Library at Franconia College in Franconia, New Hampshire, until the college closed the following year.

From 1978 until his retirement in 1985, Bill was a proofreader at The Stinehour Press in Lunenburg, Vermont, and often served as part-time assistant to his wife Barbara who was, and still is, the Director of the William D. Weeks Memorial Library in Lancaster, New Hampshire.

An active member of the Lancaster Congregational Church, William sang in the choir and served many years as the church historian. Gardening, especially African violets, stamp collecting, and photography were special pastimes for him.

He died in Lancaster on July 6, 2017, at the age of 93.



RICHARD D. (MARK) SPOOR

Read by Miranda Bennett

Richard Spoor, known as Mark, was born in Meriden, Connecticut, in 1928. Over the course of his long and rich life, he earned Eagle Scout rank, served in the US Marine Corps, studied philosophy and religion, worked as an editor, and led both an academic and a public library.



Mark developed expertise in Buddhism and non-dualistic Hinduism. Seeking a deeper understanding of the mystery of life, time, space, and eternity, he joined St. Gregory's Abbey, an Anglican Benedictine community in Michigan, where he took the name "Mark." In 1967, following Vatican II, Mark was drawn to the Abbaye de Boquen in Brittany, France, where a number of Anglican brothers joined a larger group of Roman Catholic Cistercian monks to form an ecumenical community. During this time, he met the Rev. Dr. Franck A. de Chambeau, who became his spouse and life partner.

Educated in library science at Columbia University, Mark served as Director of the Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He introduced new digital capabilities and directed a total architectural renovation. After retiring from UTS in 1994, he became Director, then President, of Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury, Connecticut.

Perhaps the best way to remember Mark are with words he and Franck wrote for an exhibit at Noble Horizons retirement community:

- Life is very uncertain. Grasp the challenges/opportunities of the day with optimism.
- The world is a place of wonder. Open your eyes to everything around you: people, nature, music, art, silence.
- Love always overwhelms intellect. Love provides strength to overcome any challenge.

Mark Spoor died on March 4, 2018, at his home in Rancho Mirage, California.

JOSEPH TROUTMAN*Read by Brad Ost*

Joseph Edward Troutman was born on January 4, 1938, in Concord, North Carolina. He graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina, in May 1956. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religious Education from Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina, in May 1960. He went on to earn three masters degrees: Master of Arts from Lutheran School of Theology in Maywood, Illinois in May 1964; a Master in Religious Education from Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey in June 1964; and in May 1980 Joe earned a Master of Science in Library Service from The Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia.



He earned a Doctor of Ministry from The Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta in May 1992. Joe was employed as the Theological Librarian at the Robert W. Woodruff Library in 1980 at The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), which is part of The Atlanta University Center. While serving in that role, he co-edited the *Journal of ITC* and became an Associate Professor of Theological Bibliography at ITC, teaching both at the Master of Divinity and Doctoral level while maintaining his library responsibilities.

On April 21, 2008, he retired after twenty-eight years of service with AUC Woodruff Library and ITC. Joe passed away at Piedmont Hospital on November 8, 2017, after a brief illness at the age of 79.