



Francis Patrick Devlin

March 31, 1939 - March 18, 2018

DANVERS- Francis Patrick Devlin, 78, passed away peacefully on March 17, 2018. Frank was born March 31, 1939, in Philadelphia, PA to the late Cornelius and Mary Ellen (Leahy) Devlin. His twin brother, Neil, died on December 31, 2017. He is survived by an aunt, Ann Leahy, of Philadelphia, and several cousins. He is also survived by many dear friends, who joined him in his love of music, gardening, and travel.

Frank grew up in Philadelphia and in Wildwood, New Jersey. He received his B.A. from Mount St. Mary's University, an M.A. from Niagara University, and a Ph.D. from Indiana University Bloomington. Frank taught at the college level for thirty-three years: six at College of the Holy Cross, one at Roger Williams University, and twenty-six at Salem State University. At Salem State, he founded the University's Writing Center, establishing a training protocol for graduate and undergraduate writing tutors that flourishes to this day. In 1979, The National Endowment for the Humanities selected Frank to participate in the first University of Iowa Institute on Writing. In addition, he taught in an exchange program with Diablo Valley College in California, where he shared the latest research connecting composition theory to classroom practice. Frank's affinity for good writing made him a valued editor of scholarly works, especially by Salem State faculty, who continued to call on his expertise long after he retired in 2000.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11AM on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at C.R. Lyons & Sons, Funeral Directors, 28 Elm St., Danvers. In lieu of flowers, donations in Frank's memory may be made to VNA Hospice and Palliative Care, Fund Development Office, 1999 Rosewood Drive, Suite 180, Danvers, MA, 01923.

Comments



“ Frank was my professor at Salem State College in the early 1980's. He was a wonderful and inspiring teacher. I loved my classes with him, and ultimately he had a major influence on the course of my life. Late in the final semester of my senior years, he asked me what my future plans were. I did not know. He suggested I apply to law school. I was skeptical that I could make it through law school. He was not. He encouraged me. He helped me every step of the way through the application process. Three years later, I got my JD from Northeastern School of Law and passed the Mass bar. Two years after that, I earned my Master of Laws (LL.M.) from Georgetown University. I've had opportunities and experiences I could not have imagined as a newly minted B.A. in English back in 1984. He was a star among the many stars in that fantastic English department of Salem State in the 80's, and all one could hope for in a college professor.

Bill Walsh - April 25, 2018 at 06:12 PM



“ Will always remember the fun times, concerts, dinners, films and lively discussions with Frank. One of the most gentle and smartest persons I have known. His friendship will be missed terribly.
" How miserably things seem to be arranged in this world. If we have no friends, we have no pleasure; and if we have them, we are sure to lose them, and doubly pained by the loss." A. Lincoln

Jeff Schultz - April 22, 2018 at 11:22 PM



“ Frank was a very dear friend. He was a good listener with a lot of empathy. We shared many musical experiences and vacation travel. His Christmas greetings always included wishes that the new year be kind to you. And that is the best way to describe him - he was a very kind man. I will miss him. Jim B

Jim Beagan - April 18, 2018 at 04:20 PM



“ One of the dearest.

Jeff Schultz - April 22, 2018 at 11:07 PM