



Terence "Terry" Martin, Sr.

March 9, 1925 - May 26, 2016

Terence (Terry) Martin died on May 26 at the age of 91.

Born in Cleveland Ohio, Terry attended John Carroll University (BA, 1949) and Ohio State University (M.A., 1950 and Ph.D. 1954), before joining the English department at Indiana University, Bloomington in 1954, where he worked until his retirement in 1997. He was, by all accounts and from the testimony of many, a highly productive and award-winning scholar, a creative and dedicated teacher, and a committed colleague who gave generously of his energies in service of colleagues, the university, and professional organizations.

His scholarship on American Literature focuses primarily on 19th Century American authors, such as James Fenimore Cooper, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Willa Cather. A considerable number of his essays were published in academic journals; and these published works, as well as unpublished papers and letters are now held at the Indiana University Office of University Archives and Records Management. His research also includes a number of book length studies, including the early *The Instructed Vision* (Indiana University Press, 1961), a study of Scottish common sense philosophies and their relevance to early American fiction; *Nathaniel Hawthorne* (Twayne Publishers, 1965), a critical introduction to the fictional works of Hawthorne; and his latest book, *Parables of Possibility: The American Need for Beginnings* (Columbia

University Press, 1995), an extensive inquiry into the uses and value of negative rhetoric in the literary framing of American national beginnings. In recognition of his scholarly achievement, Professor Martin was named a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies, and a Fellow of the Indiana University Institute for Advanced Study.

As a teacher, he was dedicated to courses for both undergraduates and graduate students, having taught every undergraduate course in American Literature at Indiana, and also having directed nearly fifty Ph.D. dissertations. He was well-known for his lively and stimulating lectures, whether addressing large introductory courses or smaller groups of students already committed to the study of American literature. In 1984, Indiana University bestowed one of its highest honors on Dr. Martin, naming him a Distinguished Professor. In the course of his academic career, Professor Martin served as a visiting professor at a diverse set of institutions in addition to Indiana, including the University of California, the University of Hawaii, the University of Dijon in France, Hyderabad University in India, and the Universities of Mainz, Frankfurt, and the Free University of Berlin in Germany.

As a colleague, Terry will be remembered as an engaging intellectual and a lively conversationalist with a great sense of humor. On a university level, he gave his time and energy to work on many committees, including those charged with matters of promotion, tenure, and recruitment. For two years in the 1960s, he served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. For the good of the wider scholarly community, he served as a consultant for several organizations, including the Fulbright Committee from 1978-1981, the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Humanities Center in the 1980s, and as a member of the editorial boards for both *American Literature* and *Nineteenth-Century Literature*.

Though he suffered his fair share of medical problems in later years, it is safe

to say that he passed away simply from old age and a life well-lived. Terry is survived by his wife, Barbara B. Martin; his daughter, Kathleen Klugman; his son, Terence J. Martin, and a granddaughter, Maura Klugman Humann.

Memorial services and Funeral Mass will be held 11am Monday, July 18. 2016 at St. Paul Catholic Center. Visitation will be from 10am until time of service at the church. A Bethany lunch will be at 12pm at after the Funeral mass.

Donations may be made in his name to IU Hospice of Bloomington, P.O. Box 1149, Bloomington IN 47402, or St. Paul Catholic Center, 1413 E. 17th St., Bloomington, IN 47408.

Tribute Wall



“ *Prof. Martin served on my doctoral committee in 1977. He was a very perceptive, encouraging, and congenial individual. I will always remember his kind and pleasant nature.*

Dr. Jeffrey Folks

Jeffrey Folks - April 30, 2022 at 01:57 PM

LP

“ I am so sorry to learn (belatedly) of Terry's death. I apologize for being so late to pay tribute to the single most important influence on my career as an English professor. He was my dissertation director at IU (1977) but also a good friend. He treated me to lunch numerous times during my four years at IU, and I also served twice as his TA in a 20th-century American fiction course. The second time he encouraged me to teach three of the novels myself--that is, lecture to 100 students. That was a transformational experience, although I knew all along that I was no match for Terry as a lecturer. He was funny and engaging, and I think had the students in the palm of his hand. For the past 40 years, he has been my best example of teaching excellence.

I took two seminars with Terry, including the best course I ever took anywhere--a seminar devoted to Cooper's five Leatherstocking Tales, as well as Simms's The Yemassee and Robert Montgomery Bird's Nick of the Woods. I think--all told--I was able to publish a half dozen articles from that seminar.

Terry was a brilliant lecturer and mentor. He was an exceptional writer from whom I learned a lot about prose style. He treated me like a colleague almost from the beginning and in so doing gave me a lot of confidence to feel part of the profession. His own love of Hawthorne transferred itself to me, and I like to think that I carried his legacy as a Hawthorne scholar forward in a manner of which he would have been proud.

My very best to Barbara, whom I also had the pleasure of knowing during my time at IU.

*Lee Person
Nathaniel P. Ropes Professor of English
University of Cincinnati*

Lee Person - January 30, 2019 at 08:37 PM

JB

“ Number one: He inspired me to remain in English Literature.
Number two: He was sweet and thoughtful and brilliant.
Number three: His lectures were so dynamic and profound I still tell my Lit classes after 25 years how he once evoked the ghost of Edgar A. Poe...the spectral form drifted into class.

John P Brennan - November 24, 2017 at 11:18 AM

LM

“ Dear Martin Family. I worked in the English Department from 1989-1993, about the time Professor Martin had his first heartattack. He was a joy to talk to; never treating us less than his equal. Needless to say, he was one of my favorites and I have thought of him often after leaving the department and since retiring from IU.

I remember once a former student of his came in and wanted to see him -- I called Professor Martin and he came quickly. They stood by my desk discussion what the young man had been doing since graduation from IU. He said he had also graduated Law School, was now an attorney and so very, very thankful to have taken Dr. Martin's English class.... where he learned the theatrics that he was practicing and doing very well, with that particular skill, in the courtroom.

God be with your family through this grieving process and my deepest and sincerest condolences to you.

Linda C McCammon

Linda C McCammon - May 27, 2016 at 12:31 PM

KK

Thank you, Linda, this means so much to us. xo Kathy Martin Klugman

Kathleen Klugman - May 27, 2016 at 09:06 PM

EL

“ Terry and Barbara were my cheerers-on and coffee companions when I completed my first book. I had heard wonderful things about both of them from colleagues in the English department, but I came to know and love both of them from our daily chats at the eastside Bakehouse, over steaming mugs of midwestern coffee. Barbara, I send you my love and deepest condolences. Terry, thank you for being such a force of kindness and light during your brilliant academic career and long into your retirement. I will think of you always with great fondness and hope to be as fine a person to others as you were to me. xo, Ellen, Randy, Graeme and Alistair.

Ellen - May 27, 2016 at 11:44 AM

KK

Ellen, your inscribed book is still on their coffee table! You're much admired, and thank you for your beautiful letter. I believe the funeral Mass at St. Paul will be on July 18. xo Kathy Martin Klugman

Kathleen Klugman - May 27, 2016 at 09:09 PM

KK

My email, for anyone needing updates, is kathyklugman@comcast.net

Kathleen Klugman - May 27, 2016 at 09:15 PM

VV

“ A wonderful and engaging colleague. Although our interactions weren't frequent, I thoroughly enjoyed conversations with him.

My condolences,

Vic Viola

Vic Viola - May 27, 2016 at 09:36 AM

KK

*Vic, this is so appreciated, thank you.
Kathy Martin Klugman*

Kathleen Klugman - May 27, 2016 at 09:09 PM

SW

“ *I am deeply saddened to learn of Terry Martin's death. When I came to the Indiana University English department in 1985, I remember feeling incredibly fortunate to have such generous senior colleagues as Terry, Don Cook, Jim Justus, the late Wallace Williams and Albert Wertheim, and others. Terry invited me to professional dinners and events, as did many of my colleagues, with a generous spirit and a real concern that I start my new job in a positive way. With humility and a keen sense of professionalism, he set a great example for younger colleagues, one I have not forgotten and have tried to follow. He will be missed.*

Stephen Watt

Stephen Watt - May 27, 2016 at 08:51 AM