

Cleveland State University
EngagedScholarship@CSU



Political Science Faculty Publications

Political Science Department

6-1992

Thomas A. Flinn - In Memoriam

Ronald J. Busch

Cleveland State University, r.busch@csuohio.edu

Everett F. Cataldo

Cleveland State University, e.cataldo@csuohio.edu

Joel A. Lieske

Cleveland State University, j.lieske@csuohio.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/clpolsci_facpub



Part of the [Political Science Commons](#)

How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!

Publisher's Statement

Copyright 1992 Cambridge University Press. Available on publisher's site at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/419724>.

Original Citation

Cataldo, Everett J., Ronald J. Busch, and Joel A. Lieske. 1992. "Thomas A. Flinn - In Memoriam." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 25:284-285.

Repository Citation

Busch, Ronald J.; Cataldo, Everett F.; and Lieske, Joel A., "Thomas A. Flinn - In Memoriam" (1992). *Political Science Faculty Publications*. 6.
https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/clpolsci_facpub/6

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Political Science Department at EngagedScholarship@CSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Political Science Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of EngagedScholarship@CSU. For more information, please contact library.es@csuohio.edu.

D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The grant is for a study on "Democratization and Ethnopolitics in the USSR: Latvia 1986-1992," during the period between August 1991 and January 1993. The study focuses on grassroots political initiatives and multi-ethnic coalition building. She has also been elected a Vice President of the International Society for Political Psychology.

Ellis Krauss, professor of political science, University of Pittsburgh, fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, January 1-May 31, 1992.

Thomas L. Pangle, University of Toronto, and **Martha Andresen**, Pomona College, were co-recipients of the Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teachers.

David Price, United States Representative from North Carolina's Fourth Congressional District and a professor of political science on leave from Duke University, has been selected to receive the National Capital Area Political Science Association 1992 Pi Sigma Alpha Award.



Congressman and Professor David E. Price (D-NC, 4th District, Duke University) was given the 1992 Pi Sigma Alpha Award by James A. Thurber (American University), President of the National Capital Area Political Science Association at the Association's Annual Spring Conference, Mt. Vernon College, February 28, 1992.

Michael Sodaro, an associate professor of political science and international affairs at the George Washington University, was awarded the Marshall Shulman Prize for his book *Moscow, Germany, and the West from Khrushchev to Gorbachev*. The award is given by the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies to the best book of the year on Soviet foreign policy.

Antje Wiener, Carleton College, received an APSA travel grant funded by the Ford Foundation.

In Memoriam

David A. Booth

David A. Booth, professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, died at home on October 20, 1991. He had undergone two successful heart bypass operations in the past several years and had continued his active, energetic pace of life. In early October, however, following a summer of poor health, he was hospitalized once more and never regained full strength. He was sixty-one.

Born in London, England, David was educated at Wycliffe College and the London School of Economics. He graduated from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville with a master's degree in foreign affairs in 1953 and a doctorate in political science in 1957. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa while at the University and was a member of the American Political Science Association and the Southern Political Science Association.

David began his teaching career at Vanderbilt University in 1957, moving from there to Michigan State University and then to the University of Kentucky, before coming to the University of Massachusetts in 1967. He was a gifted and enthusiastic teacher who always held a strong, personal concern for his students in urban, metropolitan, and state politics. He was always readily available to his students and was willing to spend countless hours helping them in their studies, internships, and

career choices. His teaching skills were rewarded in 1966 at Kentucky when he was named a Distinguished Kentucky Educator and at Massachusetts in 1991 when he won the Pi Sigma Alpha Distinguished Teaching Award. During his teaching career David also served as consultant to about thirty Massachusetts local governments on issues ranging from police administration to municipal home rule.

In campus affairs at Amherst, David represented the very best in what is expected of a university citizen. He served four terms in the Faculty Senate, was its secretary for two years, and was elected presiding officer four times. He served on numerous Faculty Senate and other University committees during the 1970s and 1980s, researching and writing countless lengthy reports for both the dean of Arts and Sciences and the chancellor. He was an active, concerned, departmental citizen as well, always willing to take on the more mundane but necessary committee assignments.

From 1984 to 1989 he was president of the Faculty Club, during which time Club membership was increased, the grounds were extensively landscaped, many pleasant interior refurbishments were accomplished, and a new club manager and chef were recruited with resultant menu improvements. His extensive contributions to a better university were recognized in 1989 when he received the Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished Public Service.

David was a warm, caring human being, blessed with a delightful sense of humor and his own fine British accent. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and colleagues. Contributions in his memory may be made out to the University of Massachusetts Foundation, marked for the "David A. Booth Memorial" and mailed to the Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003.

Edwin A. Gere, Jr.
*University of Massachusetts,
Amherst*

Thomas A. Flinn

Thoms Augustin Flinn, professor of political science at Cleveland State

University, departed this life on September 26, 1990, after suffering a massive cerebral hemorrhage the week before. He was 65 years old. In 1970, Tom came to chair the political science department, which he headed from 1970-75. Earlier, he had been a professor at Ohio State University (1967-70) and Oberlin College (1955-67). He is a former president of the Ohio Association of Economists and Political Scientists. From 1985 until his death, he served as the Politics Editor for the *Ohio Journal of Economics and Politics*.

Tom received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Minnesota, graduating summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1947. As an undergraduate he also attended Lawrence College and honorably served his country as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during the Second World War. He pursued his doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota and the London School of Economics and Political Science from 1947-51, and then took a variety of posts in party politics, the academy, and government before receiving his doctorate from Minnesota in 1957. These included positions as Executive Secretary to the Freeman for Governor Committee (1952), instructor of political science at Washington State University (1953), an executive aide in the U.S. Department of Interior (1953-54), and instructor of political science at the University of Minnesota (1954-55).

To his many friends and colleagues in the profession, Tom was a scholar of the first rank whose articles on state and urban politics and political parties appeared in leading journals (e.g., *APSR*, *AJPS*, *JOP*, and *WPQ*) and whose historical perspectives and cultural insights influenced a generation of scholarship. His most seminal contributions—e.g., “Party Responsibility in the States: Some Causal Factors,” “Local Party Leaders: Groups of Like Minded Men,” “Continuity and Change in Ohio Politics,” and “The Outline of Ohio Politics”—were picked up by leading scholars and reprinted in edited volumes. Others have either used him as an authority and extensively cited his research on party politics or invited him to write a special chapter on

Ohio politics for a book.

Tom was a man of uncommon intelligence and integrity—an academic par excellence who loved to read and discuss ideas. And we fondly recall the many enjoyable hours we spent together talking about different books and ideas and debating their merits. Truly, Tom's greatest commitment was to the life of the mind and the pursuit of scholarly knowledge. But he believed it was the “intuitivists” in the discipline who did the most to advance intellectual thought because they imparted understanding to knowledge.

Tom was also archetypically mainstream. He felt students needed more exposure to the ideas and values that had shaped American political thought and culture, especially the customs, habits, and traditions that gave meaning and expression to political and social life. He was also a courageous fighter for freedom of expression and intellectual honesty; he deplored rigid thinking and intellectual conformity. And if he didn't agree with a current intellectual fad or fashion, be it on the right or the left, he wasn't afraid to be a minority of one. Throughout his career, and later as a member of the National Association of Scholars, he consistently opposed those in the academy who would limit intellectual debate to so-called “politically correct” ideas.

Tom was an inspiring teacher as well. In a departmental survey of our alumni taken in the mid-1980s, Tom's courses received the highest rankings and he received the highest marks. He was beloved by all of his students as a good, decent, and fair person. Scores have gone on to graduate school and law school, many of them subsequently distinguishing themselves in the academic and legal professions. We remember many who in conversations at political science conventions would indicate their love and respect for him and ask how he was doing.

Finally, we remember Tom as someone who practiced what he taught and who worked and fought for the ideals in which he believed. Early in life, as a graduate student at the University of Minnesota, he was active in a reform group within the Democratic Farm-Labor Party and

formed lifelong friendships with Hubert Humphrey, Eugene McCarthy, Orville Freeman, and Walter Mondale. This group wrested control of the DFL from a communist and socialist faction and molded it into a powerful progressive force in state and national politics. In mid-life, as a college professor at Oberlin, he served on the City Council and was mayor of the city for a term. Later in life, as an active lay member in the Anglican-Catholic Church, he worked with others to preserve the Book of Common Prayer and other religious traditions he thought were important to the Episcopal faith. He also wrote papers on church-state issues for the Anglican Guild of Scholars.

How do you pay lasting tribute to an old friend and colleague whose loss you will always feel? Perhaps much of the meaning of Tom's life and our sentiments are reflected in a letter to his wife, Barbara, written by one of Tom's former students when he learned about Tom's death. It reads:

Dear Mrs. Flinn:

Someone called me today with the news of Tom's passing. I am so sorry to hear of it. Tom was teaching at Oberlin when I was a student there. More than anyone else, he was responsible for my interest in political science. So here I am, a well established professor at a major university (currently at Michigan), and Tom had a big part in that career path. But I also found him a good person and a good friend. I was very fond of Tom, and will miss him.

And so shall we. We mourn his passing, but we celebrate his life and its accomplishments. We learned much from him about our field, ourselves, and life itself. Goodbye dear friend and thank you. Until we meet again.

Everett Cataldo
Ronald Busch
Joel Lieske
Cleveland State University

Frank Benjamin Hurt

Frank Benjamin Hurt, of Ferrum, Virginia, educator, professor emeritus of two colleges, author, his-