



Hugh W. Sanborn

November 29, 1939 - October 12, 2013

Hugh W. Sanborn was born in Albany, N.Y. He received a B.A. in Psychology from Muhlenberg College, and B.D. and S.T.M. degrees from Andover Newton Theological School. He was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1965 and served as chaplain intern at Worcester State Hospital. He received a Ph.D. in Religion and Personality at the University of Iowa in 1975. His dissertation, *Mental-Spiritual Health Models: An Analysis of the Models of Boisen, Hiltner and Clinebell*, was published by University Press. He edited and contributed to two books: *Celebrating Passages in the Church* and *Celebrating the Prophetic Tradition in the Church for the 21st Century*, published by Chalice Press. As Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion at Rice University in Houston, Hugh taught a popular course in Psychology of Religion, helping students to look at the psychology of faith development in others and in themselves. In 1980, he was appointed Director of the United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston, serving the United Church of Christ, the Presbyterian Church USA, and the Disciples of Christ until retirement. Hugh was also a Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas, held Diplomat status with the American Psychotherapy Association and was a member of the American Academy of Religion, the National Campus Ministry Association, the Pastoral Care Network for Social Responsibility, and the Texas Associations for Counseling and Development and for Marriage and Family Counseling. After moving to Fort Collins in 2003, Hugh taught several courses in the Department of Religion at Colorado State University and

continued his counseling ministry through Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran and Heart of the Rockies Disciples of Christ Churches. Hugh was a life-long activist and advocate for peace and justice. He was the prime mover in establishing the Peace Studies Center at the University of Houston and the Interfaith Forum on Global Issues that was later incorporated into the Houston Chapter of Fellowship of Reconciliation. In Fort Collins, he served in various leadership capacities for the Northern Colorado Chapter of the United Nations Association and The Abrahamic Trialogue group and actively supported the Interfaith Council. Hugh deeply loved his family and friends and had a passion for tennis and fishing. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, his children Elisabeth A. and Daniel W. Sanborn, his grandchildren Hanna and Samuel Molano Sanborn and Elyse and Reid Sanborn, his brothers Mark and Gerald Sanborn, a large extended family and many friends. His legacy will live on through the lives of those whom he has touched. A memorial service will be held at Plymouth Congregational Church UCC, 916 W. Prospect Rd., Fort Collins on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at 11 AM. The family requests that contributions to honor Hugh be made to Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project International, Pathways Hospice Fort Collins, or a charity of your choice in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524. Friends may send condolences to the family at bohlenderfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

RG

“ My name is Robert Gilbert. Dr. Sanborn officiated the marriage of my wife, Nora, and me in 1995. I was just thinking of him at the time of our 30th anniversary and looked him up, seeing that he had passed 12 years ago. We were both young and petulant and from different religious backgrounds. He helped bridge this for us and our families. I am sure he had doubts that we would make it but always felt that he had faith that he was doing the right thing. We remain happily married with 4 adult children. I hope that he would be happy to see that he was right about us. We will always be so grateful to and for him.

Robert A Gilbert - March 21, 2025 at 04:24 PM

EA

“ My name is Ed Adams. I was a neighbor to Dr and Mrs Sanborn as well as Daniel and Beth. We moved in in 1977 when I was 9 years old. DR Sanborn was a very good neighbor and a great person. RIP. I just thought of him and hadn't seen him in over 20 years. I'm saddened to hear this. My heartfelt condolences to the family. God bless

Ed adams - May 09, 2024 at 11:14 AM

LW

“ As a 1966 Andover Newton Theological School classmate of Hugh, I am saddened to learn of his passing. While I have not seen Hugh since our 1966 graduation at ANTS I remember him well and give my condolences to his family. Peace to all of you. Lee Wagner, Philadelphia, PA

Lee E. Wagner - December 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Dr. Sanborn was an extraordinary source of divine grace in my life at a time when I was in great need of spiritual counseling. He graciously set aside time for our weekly session no matter what the time pressures. I never truly expressed to him how much his selfless service blessed me. His analysis was brilliant light that elucidated my personality. It was 20 years ago, yet I oft recall moments of insight from the sessions. I send my prayers for this compassionate being.*

Mark T. Burke - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ *Dear family and friends of Hugh, Tom and I were saddened to learn of Hugh's death. We are both Muhlenberg graduates, Amy in Hugh's class of 1962. We offer our sincere sympathy to you.*

Tom and Amy Reinsel - October 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM