



In Memory of Professor David Baldwin Espey (1940–2024)

David Baldwin Espey, aged 83, passed away on April 19, 2024, at home in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania. He was born on November 20, 1940, in Elmira, New York, to Jack and Mary Espey.

David was a graduate of Hamilton College. He received his MA from Johns Hopkins University and his PhD in English from the University of Michigan.

David was a Peace Corps volunteer for two years in Morocco in the early 1960s. This was where his interest in other cultures and love for teaching began. The highlight of his career was as Director of the Writing Program at the University of Pennsylvania, where he taught for twenty-eight years.

David received Fulbright Senior Fellowships to teach in Morocco, Turkey, and Japan. David came to Hacettepe University's Department of American Culture as a Fulbright professor during the 1990–1991 academic year. A colleague and I went to meet him and his

family at the airport. Who would have thought that I would be writing his obituary thirty-four years later? No words can express my sadness, for David occupied a very special place in my life.

I was inspired to study Native Americans after hearing David speak about them to the students in our department. He guided me throughout my career and gave me ideas for articles and presentations. When I received a Fulbright scholarship and asked him where I should go to study Native Americans, he suggested Albuquerque. Sometime after I went there, he called me from Philadelphia and told me that people either love or hate Albuquerque and asked me whether I liked it there. I told him that I loved it there.

David and his dear wife Molly attended many ASAT conferences, including those in İzmir, Erzurum, and Çanakkale, always providing us with their full support. He was also the keynote speaker for our department's twenty-fifth anniversary conference during the time I was chair.

David was a gentleman from head to toe. He was extremely generous with his time, patiently guiding students with his vast knowledge. His amiable character and calm attitude made everyone feel at ease in his presence. He was loved and respected by all and will be missed by everyone who knew him.

I am happy and feel fortunate because our paths crossed. I am grateful to David for being my mentor and will always cherish his memory. May he rest in peace.

Prof. Dr. Meldan Tanrısal