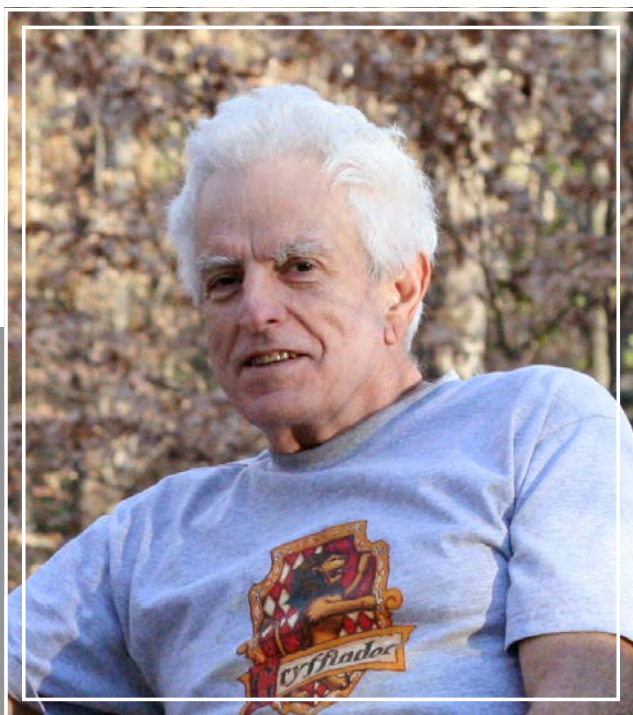


CELEBRATION OF LIFE



LYNN
IKENBERRY

June 2, 1936 - November 27, 2020

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Today we blend the style of an unprogrammed Friends Meeting for Worship with some programming that draws from Lynn's life.

The service will begin with a song that was important to Lynn. Rebecca Reyes will speak to Lynn's spirit and presence in the world after which we will sit in silence for a few minutes followed by another song. As we reflect on the message from these offerings, guests may be moved to share a brief message of their own during the following period of silent worship in the style of Friends.

A Friends Memorial Meeting is based on simplicity and grows out of a direct and immediate experience of God. Friends gather to sit in a silence that allows the body to relax and the mind to quiet, waiting upon the Spirit. There is no prepared program or supervision, for Friends trust in the Spirit to lead. They believe that something of God, which is in everyone, is the only sure leader, teacher, and healer of one's spirit. To help the centering process, the Meeting begins with an extended period of silence. During the Meeting, anyone present may be moved by the Spirit to speak from the silence and share a message. In time others may be similarly moved.

It is not easy to know when the sharing of a message is appropriate. There are no rules to follow in this regard, although experience has shown the following to be helpful: Brief and simple messages are best. Individuals who feel moved to speak are encouraged to give only the essence of the message, and to speak only once. Anyone who feels deeply moved to express a feeling, though, should not hesitate to follow an intuition, even if speaking before a group is uncomfortable. Be aware that some time following a message is most important, because it allows everyone present to reflect on its meaning and to continue meditation.

We expect many of us will be moved to speak. If you are so moved, you may simply stand and we will bring a microphone to you so all can hear. After about an hour of shared reflection, the service will close with Jennifer Curtis on violin performing Czardas, a favorite of Lynn's.

CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 1, 2021, 2 pm

Chapel Hill, NC

Jennifer Curtis will play violin while guests gather for the service.



“Amazing Grace” (John Newton)

Jennifer Curtis, violin

Rebecca Reyes

**“May the Work I Have Done Speak for Me”
(The Consolers)**

Sue Gilbertson, guitar and vocals

Silent worship

**“When We’re Gone, Long Gone”
(Kieran Kane and Jamie O’Hara)**

Allen Wilcox and Sue Gilbertson, vocals

Sue Gilbertson, guitar

Jennifer Curtis, violin

Silent worship

“Czardas” (Vittorio Monti)

Jennifer Curtis, violin



After the service, you are invited to join the family for a reception on the patio.

FROM CAROLYN



Over the years, I've sometimes gotten these comments – “How do you put up with that?” “I couldn't stay married to him” and such.

Lynn was almost always late. Once we were caught on video walking into a wedding between the bride's parents and the bride, an embarrassment which led me to tell him I'd go alone and save him a seat next time. He often raced to take a shower just as guests were ringing the doorbell, usually because he was working in the yard and forgot they were coming. He would be so engrossed in reading something that he didn't notice someone had come in the house, which must have seemed uncaring and rude. Once I needed to give him an important message and I followed him in his car, blinking my lights and blowing the horn and he never noticed. He forgot appointments and dinner dates, he spent much of each day looking for something he had lost, and we were always two or three hours late leaving for a trip because he was trying to finish a job that could easily wait until his return.

Yet the people who asked me how I could put up with him didn't understand what he gave me. It is a priceless gift in life to have someone know you in the deepest way, to understand what is most important to you, to encourage you to follow your dreams even when it may not be what they want and to love you without reservation in spite of the ugly parts of yourself. He gave that to me. Lynn was the person I always turned to when

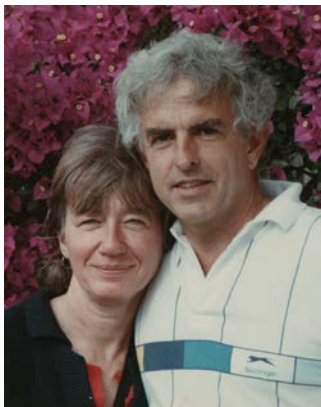
I had a tangled relationship problem, an issue with a co-worker, or just trying to figure out how I felt about something. He would ask questions: Who are you trying to please? What outcome do you want? What are you afraid will happen if you do x y or z? And then the way through would be so clear even if not so easy.

He supported my deepest longings, no matter the effort to him. He understood my lifelong struggle to come to terms with my life in the context of the terrible racial history of my home state and town. Even though it wasn't his personal struggle, he spent hours researching land titles in the county seat to help understand how my family got its land. He spent a day riding the back roads of that rural county with an African American friend and me, listening to us sharing stories of our very different histories. And he wholeheartedly supported decisions I made to come to terms with this past even when it had financial implications for his life.

And I need to say that I wasn't always the easiest person to live with either.

We were so young emotionally when we married, still struggling to understand what we wanted from life and to find our way toward it. I'm so glad that we didn't turn away from that hard work and that we shared it with each other. He helped me become the person I want to be and I will forever be grateful to him for that.

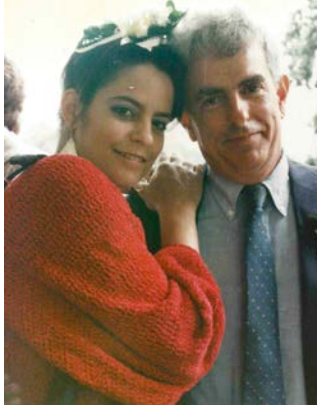
And he had the best hugs in the world. I miss him terribly.



OUR GRATITUDE

Thank you to David and Leon Ikenberry for opening their home to everyone for this service, to Rebecca Reyes for her guidance, to Jennifer Curtis, Sue Gilbertson, and Allen Wilcox for sharing their musical gifts with us, and to Jennifer Curtis for providing the audio.

And deep thanks to all of you for being part of Lynn's life.



OBITUARY

Lynn David Ikenberry passed away at home on November 27, 2020 at the age of 84, of cardiac problems that had worsened over the last few months. He is survived by a family who deeply loves and misses him: his wife, Carolyn, and his children and their families - David, his wife Leon, and their children Coleman and Logan; Kara, her husband Ronan Peterson, and their children Nolan and Milo; and Maria and her partner Deb Cunningham.



Lynn was born in Ithaca, NY, in 1936, the first child of Jesse Emmert and Katherine Maxwell Ikenberry, and grew up in Lancaster, PA then Harrisonburg,

VA. He was preceded in death by his oldest daughter Rebecca, his sister Jean, and his parents.

Lynn and Carolyn met at the Church of Reconciliation when she was a young widowed mother and he was a divorced father. If "love at first sight" ever applied, it was with them as they had their first date in February 1971 and married 2 months later in April. While such a quick marriage might be disastrous for some, theirs lasted almost 50 years, full of the whole range of life experiences and rich in love for each other.

Lynn's relationship with his family was primary to him. He deeply loved his children, grandchildren and in-laws, and was a quiet supporting presence in all their activities. His sense of family was expansive, however, and included Carolyn's extended family, several young



people with whom he had a close bond, and close friends. The death of his daughter Rebecca when she was just 37 was a pain that never left him.

Lynn graduated from Duke University and received a PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Chicago. He did a postdoc at UNC-CH in the chemistry department then worked at Research Triangle Institute doing research on polymer membranes for artificial kidneys. He quickly realized he didn't want to spend his life working in a lab and took the bold step of following his dream of becoming a doctor. Despite not having a clear view of how he would manage financially given that he now had a family to support, he entered medical school at UNC-CH. This proved to be the right decision for him as the following four decades of practice in general psychiatry were deeply satisfying to him. The choice to risk financial security to pursue a life calling that brought him joy and meaning was emblematic of his priorities in life, and throughout his life he encouraged others to embrace their passions as well.

His practice of psychiatry evolved over the years into a specialty of Attention Deficit Disorder. Having suffered himself for years with undiagnosed ADD, he had a special understanding of how people with ADD struggle to manage the tasks of their lives regardless of their education, intellectual ability, or other resources. His empathy and understanding of these struggles undergirded his relationships with patients, family, and friends with whom he willingly spent hours helping deal with the issues in their lives. Many times through the years, his family would meet strangers who, upon learning the family connection, unhesitatingly said "he saved my life".

In his retirement, he entered one of the most satisfying engagements of his life, his work with the ABEL program at the nonprofit Eyes Ears Nose and Paws (EENP). At Both Ends of the Leash (ABEL) is a



program which teaches men incarcerated in NC prisons to train service dogs for people living with disabilities. But the impact is much greater than simply training dogs, as the program also incorporates work in life skills like communication, responsibility, and teamwork that help the men be successful both inside and when they return to the community outside prison. Despite the hours of driving involved, he was a regular and dedicated volunteer who would help with any task needed but whose unique contribution was to talk with the men about how to understand and learn from their feelings, whether those were anger, shame, sadness, grief, or others. He held the same regard for these men as the most highly functioning patient he had, seeing them as having the same struggles in life as those living outside prison, and that respect was mutual. He understood their problems as, at a fundamental level, similar to struggles he had faced in life and he was so glad for the opportunity to use what he had learned through years of study and practice to help them find some resolution. He at times drove many miles to volunteer with men from the ABEL program who had stepped down from medium to minimum security and transferred to other prisons. Just before he died, he was working on a TED talk kind of video to be used in the program in lieu of personal visits during COVID restrictions. His deep engagement with the ABEL



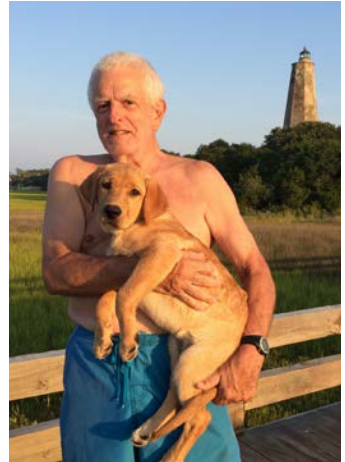
program embodied his profound regard for people that left no room for judgment.

Lynn had many interests and skills which enriched his life and the lives of others. While he was slow to get started and known for his lengthy pondering of projects, he was also dedicated to any project he started long after others would have quit, using floodlights to illuminate his outdoor projects well into the wee hours. Over the years he built beautiful stone walls, a fish pond, and a waterfall around his house, among other projects. He was a founding member of the Church of Reconciliation and played a pump organ there for several years

as well as served in leadership roles. He loved tennis and his tennis buddies were a rich part of his life for many years.

He took great joy in travel with Carolyn and together they visited Peru, China, the Galapagos Islands, Eastern Europe, Central America, New Zealand, and many other places, often in the company of friends or family. He loved gardening, had a lifelong love affair with books of all genres, and would stay up all night to finish reading something that engaged him. If he was missing or late (which he often was), it was a good bet he was lost in reading something somewhere. He once spent hours in a tienda in Mexico City reading greeting cards in Spanish (which he did not speak!) to find the perfect anniversary card for Carolyn. His best friend was his dog Bunn who went everywhere he was allowed to take her, including to his dental appointments where they were both much loved.

He was a quiet man and had a quality of social shyness, yet Lynn made a big impression with few words and people remembered him after meeting him only briefly. He spoke thoughtfully, and could listen for hours. He presented himself without pretension and accordingly accepted other people as they were. He didn't judge mistakes or choices, and he didn't waste energy wringing his hands over much of anything. He was unimpressed by traditional measures of success and drawn instead to intellectual curiosity, authenticity, and personal connection. He followed rules that made sense to him, ignored the ones that didn't, and discouraged use of the word "should". He was tenacious, which on the flip side meant he was obstinate. He was physically affectionate and generous with hearty hugs and kisses for family and friends alike. He will be deeply, deeply missed.



If friends wish to make a gift in Lynn's memory, they may do so by contributing to Eyes Ears Nose and Paws.