

democratic year 1993-94 at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

In Memoriam

Douglas E. Ashford

Douglas E. Ashford, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics, died June 20, 1993 at the age of 64. Professor Ashford received his Ph.D. from Princeton in 1960 and joined the political science department at the University of Pittsburgh in 1982 after having taught previously at Indiana University and Cornell University. Professor Ashford also had an appointment in the department of history at the University of Pittsburgh and had held visiting positions at several British and French universities. Among his numerous academic honors Douglas Ashford was a Rhodes Scholar, a Guggenheim Fellow, Fellow of the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies, Simon Visiting Professor at the University of Manchester, and Fellow of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Bielefeld.

Survivors include his wife, Karen Knudson Ashford; five children, Elizabeth A. Ashford-Stinson of Ithaca, N.Y., Douglas E. Jr., of New York City, David S. of Cambridge, Mass., Michael A. of Washington, D.C., and Matthew K. at home; and four grandchildren.

Douglas Ashford was an extremely prolific scholar with a wide range of interests, although his work was unified through his interest in comparative politics and public policy. His initial scholarly publications were in the politics of North Africa, especially Morocco and Tunisia. He also was actively concerned with local government and its role in contemporary democracies. In addition to his own scholarly contributions in local government, Professor Ashford was active in organizing and editing research in this field. He organized and also contributed two volumes in a major series on the comparative public policy of advanced democracies. Throughout his work he established himself as a major commentator on the politics of France and

the United Kingdom. Most of his research during the last years of his life was concerned with policy history, and particularly the development of the welfare state in Britain, France and Sweden. One major book on the development of the welfare state already has been published and a second will be published soon. Through that research he developed a deep interest in social theory and methodological alternative to those currently employed in the social sciences. He was widely read and always wanted to share his knowledge, and love of knowledge, with colleagues and students.

While at Cornell University, Ashford teamed with Peter J. Katzenstein and T. J. Pempel in teaching a year-long graduate seminar on comparative public policy that led eventually to the Temple University Press series on "Policy and Politics in Industrial Societies." The seminar was particularly popular with graduate students, not only for its broad-ranging contents, but for the diversity of academic and personal approaches of the three professors. Katzenstein's predilection for parsimonious tables regularly confronted Ashford's oddly out-of-place vignette; any temptation by Pempel to discover uniqueness in seemingly bizarre Japanese experiences would invariably find Ashford countering with some readily comparable example from the Netherlands or Vichy France. Moreover, any efforts by the first two to start and finish the seminar on time ran head first into Ashford's unwillingness even to wear a watch.

One of Ashford's greatest academic strengths was his commitment to primary sources. Excessively glib colleagues often found their boldly asserted, but undocumented speculations, unraveling quickly in the face of Ashford's ability to recite chapter and verse of British Parliamentary records from the late nineteenth century or to summarize the "real" motivations of inter-war French policymakers as revealed in their unpublished diaries. Yet his knowledge was never brandished as a tool of his ego; rather, it reflected always his search for academic truth and deeper understanding. As a result of his orientation he was quick to estab-

lish friendships with like-minded scholars across the boundaries of department, age, and nation.

Ashford's diversity was perhaps best demonstrated during 1971-72 when he bought an old upstate New York barn, tore it down, and used the beams and siding to design and build a marvelous contemporary home in the woods outside of Ithaca. He thought nothing of doing all the carpentry, plumbing and wiring himself, and seemed genuinely puzzled when other academics seemed amazed at his disparate talents. The home became a welcome gathering spot for faculty and graduate students from Cornell for the following ten years until he left for Pittsburgh. After moving to Pittsburgh Ashford again displayed his diversity by building a cabin deep in the Pennsylvania mountains. He seemed equally at home on the streets of Paris and in a cabin by a stream in the mountains.

During the last three years of his life Douglas Ashford faced two major surgeries and subsequent treatments with great courage, optimism, and a remarkably positive attitude. He continued to write and to plan his future research projects, including plans for a sabbatical in 1994 and a faculty seminar on nationalism. He was a man of strong opinions who was willing to take unpopular stands if he believed they were right. All this he did with a deep and sincere commitment to free inquiry and the importance of our intellectual pursuits.

T. J. Pempel
University of Wisconsin-Madison

B. Guy Peters
University of Pittsburgh

Erika S. Fairchild

Erika S. Fairchild died unexpectedly following a brief illness on November 25, 1992 in her home in Raleigh, North Carolina. She was professor of political science and public administration at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and in recent years served as the associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Fairchild was born in New York