Necrologica


As Plutarch says in the opening of his biography of Nicias, in order to avoid the appearance of carelessness, it is important to cover even well-known details like those of the impressive scholarly career of Philip A. Stadter. Born in Cleveland, Ohio (USA) in 1936, he received his B.A. from Princeton in 1958, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard (1959 and 1963, respectively). While still a student, he was awarded the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship (1958-59), and a Fulbright Fellowship to Rome, Italy (1960-61). He joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1962 as an Instructor, receiving promotions to Assistant Professor (1964), Associate Professor (1967), Professor (1971), and Emeritus Professor (2003). He was awarded a series of distinguished fellowships, including a Guggenheim Fellowship (Florence Italy, 1967-78), a National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellowship (Cambridge, MA, 1974-75), an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship (Oxford, England, 1982-83), and a National Humanities Center Fellowship (1989-90).

At Chapel Hill, he directed six dissertations in the last fifteen years and served as Chairman of the Department of Classics (1976-86). He was appointed Professor of Comparative Literature at UNC (1991) and held the Eugene H. Falk Professorship in the Humanities (1991-2003). He also served as President of the UNC-CH Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (1979-80), as Director of the Lilly Teaching Fellow Program (1990-93), and on the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina Press (1989-92).

He also served as Assistant Director (1969, 1971) and Director (1980) of the Vergilian Society Summer School at Cumae, as well as on the Managing Committees for the Southeastern Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (1972-74) and the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (1979-83). He held the offices of Secretary (1964-67) and then President (1968-69) in the North Carolina Classical Association, Vice-President (North Carolina) in the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (1966-72) and has been a Director (1977-80) and member of the Publications Committee (1996-99) of the American Philological Association. He was editor of the American Journal of Philology and Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies and served on the editorial boards of the American Journal of Philology, Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies, and Histos.

He was an astonishingly insightful and productive scholar, but he was also a good friend to everyone in the
International Plutarch Society and I now write about him as a person, Plutarchan-style. Like everyone who was lucky enough to know Philip, I was not only extremely fond of him but inspired by him to be a better person as well as a better scholar. In this he embodied many of the qualities that we love in our Chaeronean, including the desire to lead by example. Philip had astonishing energy. I have seen him sprint straight up steps in Idaho (at altitude) to inspect a roadside monument; I have seen him skip down the street in Cadiz to show us he could still do so; I have seen him charge through Plaka to connect with other friends taking a wrong turn. He was a generous host whose hospitality I tried to emulate when hosting the recent north American section at a backyard bbq. He was interested in new things and would have been the first to embrace the idea of a virtual conference that let us at least see and hear one another. And he was a great, great friend to young students.

Among my fondest memories of him are the “Plutarch and beer” meetings that he, Jeff Beneker, and I used to have in Chapel Hill. “Meetings” is really the wrong word, conjuring up ideas of obligation and drudgery. These sessions were pure joy. Jeff and I were completing our dissertations at the same time, and every week or so Philip would take us across campus to Franklin Street for a beer and conversation. The talks ranged widely and were as likely to be as much about our own lives and goals as they were about work. For Philip, a humanist in the best sense, his personal life and work were not compartmentalized, they were essential components of a complete life. Through his example he taught me to approach my life in the same way.”

I myself met Philip at a CAMWS meeting when I was still in graduate school. Here are some of my favorite memories.

Philip was famous for what was known to us Plutarchans as “Spantalian” and he was often enlisted to translate for Plutarchans abroad. When asked what language he and Lucia spoke at home with the children, he said “We talk to them in English and yell at them in Italian”.

Philip was obsessed with maps, ancient and modern, and could be quite controlling about directions. One evening he, Chris Pelling, and I took a taxi to dine with Ewen Bowie and Lucia Athanassaki in Athens. After some time spent meandering, Philip who was riding in front burst out “This is not the way!” The driver shrugged, kept meandering, and we ultimately found Ewen in the street.
looking for us, torch in hand, and had a lovely evening. Our hosts called us a taxi to take us back and about three minutes into the drive we realized that it was the same driver. It took all our self-control not to dissolve into laughter on the spot.

And finally, I had the privilege of dining with Philip and Lucia in their flat in Oxford one of the times he was in residence there. At my request, Lucia was teaching me how to make risotto and chicken breasts. Philip was the sous-chef or assistant, and it was hilarious to see him being sternly admonished by her as he tried to see how the chicken was doing, or *horrible dictu* pretended like he was going to add some broth.

He was as kind, friendly, funny, and supportive a friend as he was an influential and highly respected scholar. His depth and breadth of knowledge were equaled only by his profound generosity—of his time, his advice, his expertise, his benevolent company. Most particularly among the scholarly community, we Plutarchans miss him very much. *Ave atque vale.*

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2. Fallecimiento del Profesor de la Universidad de Zaragoza Dr. Carlos Schrader García (22 de septiembre de 1950 - 8 de octubre de 2021). *In memoriam.*

El pasado 8 de octubre falleció el Dr. Carlos Schrader, Catedrático de Filología Griega de la Universidad de Zaragoza, querido maestro y amigo. El destino había decidido, en su persona, acelerar el curso del tiempo y, en pocos días, pasamos de celebrar un merecido y entrañable homenaje, el viernes 17 de septiembre, a recibir el mazazo de su inesperado fallecimiento, hecho luctuoso que nos reunió en torno a él, por última vez, en la mañana del 10 de octubre para tributarle nuestro afecto en su despedida. Acababa de cumplir 71 años el día 22 de septiembre e inauguraba un nuevo tiempo para el descanso tras su recién estrenada jubilación.

Precisamente, esta conjunción temporal indeseada ha hecho que, poco ha, hubiera tiempo de glosar ya sus méritos, en los que quedó indeleble su impronta y criterio: el convencimiento de que debía seleccionar las tareas que consideraba que más aportaban al avance del progreso científico. Así, su acertada intuición se hizo pronto evidente en una brillante Tesis Doctoral (publicada como *La Paz de Calias. Testimonios e interpretación*, Barcelona: BIEH, 1976), dirigida por el Profesor José Alsina, Catedrático de Griego en la Universidad de Barcelona, a la que se había trasladado para completar la cámara secundaria y en la que obtuvo, además, el Premio Nacional Fin de Carrera de la XXXI promoción. Tras la brillante obtención del Grado de Doctor, ingresó en la Universidad de Zaragoza, comenzando en noviembre de 1972, en el entonces Colegio Universitario de Logroño, integrado en nuestra Universidad, en el que permaneció hasta octubre de 1979, año en el que se trasladó a la Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, tras la obtención de la plaza de Profesor Adjunto.