

David deLaine Black

David deLaine Black was a businessman, patriot, consummate gentleman, husband and father, and one of the most loyal friends anyone could have. His contributions to government, education, civic organizations, the arts, his clubs, his church, and to securing rights for minorities are extensive and impressive. To give just a few examples, Henry Winkler remembers his service as a founding member of Citizens for Civic Renewal, several decades on the board of The Murray and Agnes Seasongood Good Government Foundation, and his service as a mentor in the public schools. Stewart Maxwell notes his service raising funds for a statue of Cincinnatus. Bob Dorsey recalls his support of WGUC and his pride in being a graduate of Princeton. Rather than slight David's accomplishments or the many other events of his life, a copy of the vita from his memorial service at Indian Hill Church is attached.

Tonight we remember David as a member of this Club and as a friend. Tall, commanding, aristocratic, scholarly, always impeccably dressed with a perfectly tied bow tie, he was at the same time down to earth and always approachable. He had that wonderful gift of making the person with whom he was talking believe that in David's eyes, this person was the most important in the room. He smiled and laughed frequently, more a chortle than a chuckle. Nearly every Monday evening when we were in session, he had dinner with the regular group at The University Club before walking over to The Literary Club. He always sat in the same chair, the chair I often occupy now.

One evening after a particularly fine paper that ran almost 50 minutes, Ed Burdell remarked on the quality of the paper to David. He agreed, but said, "I could never do that." By "that," Ed believes he meant that his mind was so concentrated that he could

explain and exhaust the most complicated subjects clearly, compactly, and expeditiously. This may well have been the secret of his success in business. Otto Geier remembers the significant contributions David made at Cincinnati Milacron. This is probably also the secret of his contributions to the many other organizations that sought his advice and assistance. He grasped the issue immediately and resolved it expeditiously.

Along with being eternally interested and curious, David maintained a healthy skepticism. Dale Flick remembers that more than once, when our business meetings were enlivened by points of order by philosophers and lawyers, he would lean over, grin, and whisper, "Well, they're on a roll again." For several years, he sang in the chorus for the holiday party. When Ed Burdell asked him why he stopped, he replied: "Too many ringers." Note that these are all private remarks to friends. He never ridiculed or embarrassed anyone directly. He simply enjoyed the human comedy.

Two of his papers were particularly memorable: one a budget on time pieces, thoroughly researched with footnotes and well presented, and his last paper, "Two Questions," about a friend David believed had been unjustly convicted of a crime. Relatively late in life, David followed his family's tradition in the law by taking courses at UC Law School, an adventure for him and certainly for classroom colleagues fifty years younger. In "Two Questions," he combined his learning with his sense of loyalty and justice to deliver a wrenching portrait of the law gone wrong.

David faced death calmly with grace and equanimity. At his funeral, one of his children quoted him as advising, "Take the cookies when they are passed. They may not come 'round again." Following his own philosophy, his wife Nancy and he travelled to Israel after receiving the fatal diagnosis. He continued to live life to the fullest as long as

possible. When Bruce Petrie and I visited him last fall, Nancy had gone to an art opening downtown. He did not demand that she be in constant attendance on him; he wanted her to continue to live life to the fullest as well.

Perhaps his most remarkable act was at his own funeral. He wrote a new creed expressing his faith in terms more meaningful to him than the Church's traditional ones. How bold, how creative can you be, than to ask your friends to join in your personal credo at your own funeral? Thus, in his last public statement, he approached the sublime.

Respectfully submitted,

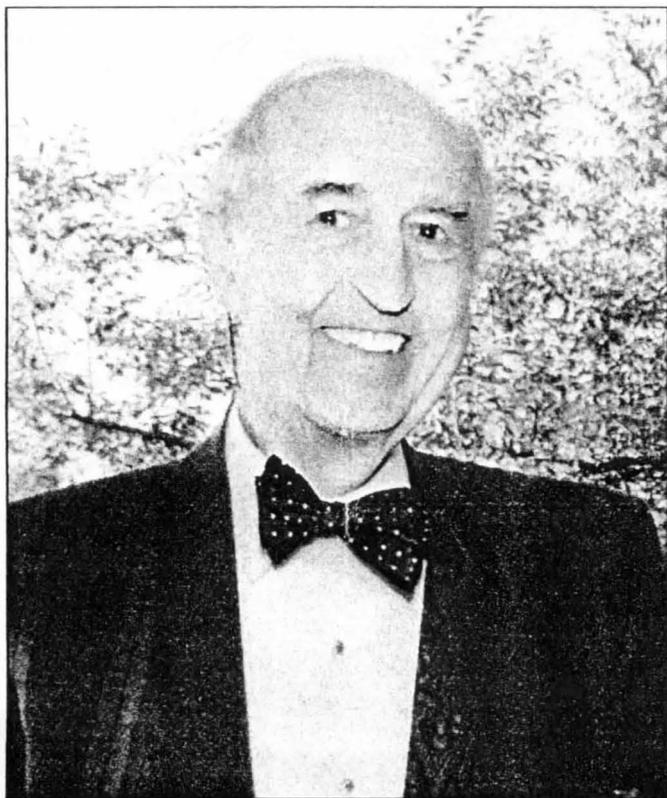
The Memorial Committee¹

Edward L. Burdell
Robert W. Dorsey
Russell Dale Flick
Stewart Maxwell
Frederick J. McGavran
Bruce I. Petrie
Henry Winkler

¹ Read by Frederick J. McGavran

Vita from memorial service at Indian Hill Church follows:

David deLaine Black



1926 - 2011



David deLaine Black

Lifelong Leader in the Cincinnati Community

David deLaine Black, a board-level participant in 14 community organizations in the Cincinnati area, died on January 7, 2011 at the age of 84.

David was a true Cincinnati. Similar to his hero, the city's namesake Cincinnati, he has exhibited civic leadership, selfless service, and modesty throughout his life.

Community Contributions

In addition to his contributions to the Cincinnati community and many of its organizations, David served as Chairman of the Board of two, and President of six. According to Henry Winkler, President Emeritus at the University of Cincinnati, "He was an articulate and enthusiastic contributor" to these organizations, offering "perception about needs that was both gratifying and too rare. David fits the definition of good citizen ideally." Mr. Winkler said. "[His death] is a major loss to this community."

Prior to his death, when one of David's children asked him why so many people nominated him to serve on boards, he simply said, "I don't know." When pressed, he offered an explanation typical of his no-nonsense style: "My father never allowed a great deal of self-praise. I had fun doing it."

Those who have observed David Black at work consistently describe a man who strove to identify the key questions facing the organization, tracked down relevant facts, and ultimately achieved agreement on a sound course of action. This talent was key in resolving a broad scope of problems and launching initiatives in a wide variety of organizations.

David believed that communities benefit from efficiency, and when the opportunity presented itself, he applied his singular talents to help Cincinnati organizations streamline and improve the city's health care, government, education, arts, social and religious infrastructures.

Health care. David's greatest contribution was to the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, where he served on the Board for 31 years. During his tenure, it grew dramatically and achieved world-class status.

His first volunteer assignment at the Medical Center was to run the Administrative Committee, which helped to draft the consent agreement that bonded seven separate organizations into the medical center (including the Children's Convalescent Hospital, of which David served as President).

He also helped to establish an independent audit function to assess departmental performance, and the Children's Hospital Research Foundation (CHRC), which reinvested 10% of the hospital's income into medical research and efforts to assist the University of Cincinnati's Pediatrics Department. He served as Chairman of the Board of the CHRC for four years.

According to William K. Schubert, former President and CEO of the Children's Hospital Medical Center, "he was a level-headed, very competent, and fair individual... [an] honest, thoughtful, and well-organized man who has contributed much to the City of Cincinnati, to the Children's Medical Center, and to many more organizations."

David's contributions to health care did not focus exclusively on children; he also cared for the elderly. He served on the Advisory Board for the Marjorie P. Lee Home and managed the finances for his mother Anna, as well as Kay, his late wife Maralyn's mother, and Flo, his childhood caregiver. It was very important to him to ensure that each of these important women received the best care possible during the final chapters of their lives.

Government. David was the first "civilian" volunteer on The Cincinnati Bar Association's judicial ratings committee and was an outspoken advocate for accountability among Cincinnati judges.

According to John Norwine, the Executive Director of The Cincinnati Bar Association, "While many of our attorney members were very reluctant to embrace non-attorneys for this difficult task, David almost single-handedly changed their opinions. David was the force of reason, the committee member who always did his homework and who prompted others to think about their positions." Norwine went on to say that, upon David's retirement, the Cincinnati Bar Association "presented him with a plaque honoring him for his many years of service to our legal community, an honor he richly deserves."

David also worked extremely hard for three organizations that served as early champions of charter reform in 1995-6 (Cincinnatians for Constructive Change, Cincinnati Forum for Charter Reform, and Cincinnatians for Charter Reform) – and was involved in multiple arduous petition drives.

Education. David chaired the Public Education Panel for the Cincinnatus Association in 1968-70, following his 1966-67 Presidential term with the organization. He chaired a successful Mariemont City School 6.75 mill levy campaign in 1974, winning despite the fact that approval had dropped from 56% to 52% over the previous few elections. He contributed generously to the School Foundation of Greater Cincinnati (1972-77), and was a member of the Stepping Stones Center Board (1996-97). In 1983, he served as Chairman of the Board of WCET-48.

Civic organizations. David was involved with several organizations that sought to strengthen Cincinnati's civic infrastructure. He was appointed as President of the Cincinnatus Association from 1966-67 and received an honorary membership in 2009. Among other accomplishments, he was integral to the effort to erect a statue of Cincinnatus at Sawyer Point. He also acted as President of the Seasongood Foundation's Board of Trust. And, from 1997 until his death, he served as a Treasurer and/or Advisory Board member of the Citizens for Civic Renewal.

The Arts. David greatly appreciated Cincinnati's fine arts organizations, and regularly attended operas, plays, and symphonies. He fondly remembers his time serving on the Executive Committee of the Cincinnati Summer Opera (1970-75). During his tenure the decision was made to move summer performances from an outdoor auditorium at the Cincinnati Zoo to Music Hall, where there would be "less interference from peacocks when the sopranos hit their high notes." As David put it, "the Zoo-based opera was a quaint thing, and the age of quaintness was over."

Social/religious communities. Through the course of his life, David was a member of the University Club (where he served as Governor for nine years), the Cincinnati Tennis Club, and the Camargo Club. He also made many contributions to the Literary Club of Cincinnati and Rotary Club #17. He was an active participant in the Indian Hill Church community, where he served on the Vestry for 12 years, co-chaired the fundraising effort one year, sang in the choir, and even served as a Sunday School teacher. His deep bass voice will be missed in the pews.

A Helping Hand to Minorities

Although fiscally conservative, David was socially progressive, and would not shrink from a battle to correct injustice when he saw it. In the fifties, during the McCarthy era, he helped collect the information necessary to clear the name of a religious community leader who had been falsely accused of being a communist. In the sixties, he was a member of the Mariemont Operation Welcome Committee, which lobbied to convince the village council to make

a declaration stating that the town would welcome any African-American who wished to buy a home in the community. In the seventies, he championed the decision to open the University Club's squash courts to women at noon.

In the eighties, he served on the Board of Planned Parenthood (while remaining deeply respectful of the differing views of many of his loved ones). In the nineties, he worked directly with minorities and other disadvantaged individuals; he served as an individual volunteer and mentor with the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative, the College Information Center, and the Emanuel Center.

Throughout his life, David was a strong voice in support of the admission of women, minorities, and people of all faiths into the exclusive clubs to which he belonged. While at Children's Convalescent, he championed the effort to allow women to serve on the Board.

David has supported several family members who have sought judgeship positions. For his late brother Robert L. Black, Jr., he managed two successful "Black for Judge" campaigns (the Court of Common Pleas in 1972, and the First District Appeals Court in 1976). He was pleased to attend the June 2010 investiture ceremony for his nephew, the Honorable Timothy Black, who is currently serving as a US District Judge in the federal court system, and has been a proud supporter of nephew Stephen L. Black's political and judicial campaigns.

The Cincinnati Community also "Gave Back" to Him

David gave much to the Cincinnati community, but felt that he received invaluable gifts in return. As he put it, "When you're part of a community, you don't sink when life rocks your boat: you float." David experienced his share of adversity throughout his lifetime; at 18 years of age, while enrolled in the Navy at Oberlin College during World War II, he lost his father to a debilitating stroke; his first marriage to Margaret Reeve ended in divorce, and his children moved with their mother to California; Maralyn, his second wife, succumbed to cancer, leaving him a single parent to three young children; his third wife, Polly, died in a car accident; and, his firstborn son Peter died suddenly of natural causes at the age of 50.

Despite these sadnesses and setbacks, David succeeded in living a balanced and happy life. He managed to put all six of his kids through college, and enjoyed many educationally oriented international trips during his retirement. David was well-loved by his many friends — throughout his life, he received many more invitations to dinner and summer homes than he could possibly accept.

Education

David's parents and siblings, his involvement with World War II, and many fine educational institutions helped to cultivate David's sense of commitment to his community. He attended the Hoffman School (1932-33), Cincinnati Country Day School (1933-42), and Deerfield Academy (1942-44). During the war he was enrolled in Oberlin College in 1944-45 (V-5, V-12) and Miami University (NROTC) in 1945-46. He received his BSE (with honors) from Princeton University (1949) and his MBA from the Harvard Business School (1951).

Career

Following graduation from the Harvard Business School, David shifted into some blue-collar roles while participating in the "2,000 hour Training Program" at Cincinnati Milacron, which involved performing a wide variety of tasks on the factory floor. Ultimately, while serving as the Manager of Company Planning at Cincinnati Milacron, he championed the initiative to enter the plastics manufacturing equipment business, taking frequent trips to Japan. This division later came to represent a majority of the company's sales and employed many Cincinnatians for decades. During his 25 years at Milacron, he also enjoyed a role as a state and federal government lobbyist, which included a trip to the White House and a meeting with President Lyndon Johnson.

David often reflected nostalgically on his seven years spent as an independent consultant offering strategic long-range planning services to intermediate sized companies (dba "Planning Counsel"). After training his clients to implement his methodology, he pursued his lifelong interest in investments by obtaining a Series 7 license, joining Gradison McDonald Investments Inc., and working as an investment consultant for 17 years, before retiring at the age of 75.

Personal Life

David's six kids are grateful that he was almost always home in time for family dinners, during which he shared tales of his community and commercial experiences with them and also asked each of them to talk about the interesting events of their day.

In addition to his wife Nancy Kohnen Black of Price Hill, David is survived by his brother Harrison Black, MD (m. Trudi) of Boston, MA, and his sister Frances Black Turner of Mariemont; his brother Robert L. Black is deceased, and survived by wife Helen; his sister Anne died in infancy.

David had six children: Peter Black of Los Angeles, CA (m. Patti) who preceded him in death in 2001, Susan Black of Los Angeles, Bob Black of Charlotte, NC (m. Sue), Dorothy Black Franzoni of Atlanta, GA (m. Chip), Jim Black of San Luis Obispo, CA (m. Liz), and Evie Black Dykema of Boston, MA (m. Eric) – as well as nine grandchildren. He is also survived by his wife Nancy's five

grandchildren as well as her children, whom he loved: Ralph Kohnen (m. Monica), of Hyde Park; Allen Kohnen, of Oakley; and Nan Kohnen Cahall (m. Jeff, who is deceased), of Mariemont.

David was a great believer in the institution of marriage, having been involved with National Marriage Encounter of Greater Cincinnati along with his wife Polly. He later served as President.

Following Polly's death, David married Nancy Kohnen Black, and his spirits soared again. David's children happily saw his vibrant and joyful demeanor return as Nancy planned stimulating international education tours and social engagements for them to share – and constantly delighted him with her engaging sense of humor.

Nancy took every opportunity to tell people that this 6' 4" lifelong athlete was "adorable." "He's the finest, kindest, most intelligent, and charming man I've ever known," she said. "'Gentleman' is the word used most often by people who describe David. He was always such a gentleman."

In Conclusion

David spent his final days visiting with family and numerous friends, and enjoying the view of Cincinnati skyline from the window of his Price Hill home. "I really care about this city, and I want it to succeed," he often told his friends and family. "There is a very strong sense of community here and many world class institutions," he added, "and it's time for the next generation to pick up the baton."

