



Dr. Ivan E. Frick

August 25, 2018

Dr. Ivan E. Frick, 90, of Lancaster, PA, and formerly of Elmhurst, IL, died on Saturday, August 25, 2018, at Willow Valley Communities. Born in New Providence, PA, he was the son of the late Charles G. and Lillie M. Frick. He was married to the late Ruth H. Frick for over 64 years.

A 1945 graduate of Lampeter (PA) High School, Dr. Frick received his bachelor's from Findlay (OH) College in 1949. He held theological degrees from Lancaster Theological Seminary (1952) and from the Graduate School of Theology at Oberlin College (1955). He earned his PhD from Columbia University/Union Theological Seminary (1959).

Dr. Frick lived a life of service to church-related colleges and to his church. Ordained as a minister in 1951, he pastored churches in PA and NJ, then taught theology, religion, and philosophy at Findlay College (now the University of Findlay). After being appointed assistant to the president in 1963, he served as Findlay's president from 1964–1971. His tenure saw the restoration of the College's accreditation, an improvement in its financial health, and an expansion of its physical plant through the construction of four buildings. Among numerous awards and degrees from Findlay, he received a Doctor of Humane Letters in 1976.

In November 1971, Dr. Frick assumed the presidency of Elmhurst College. He

and his wife Ruth, the College's First Lady, served in their roles until 1994. Upon their retirement, Elmhurst renamed the College Union building The Frick Center in honor of their leadership. As president, Frick developed new programs for nontraditional students, achieved twenty-two years of balanced budgets, expanded the endowment from \$750,000 to \$34 million, and led the construction of two, and renovation of seven, campus buildings.

Dr. Frick took leadership positions with numerous professional associations in higher education and was a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. He enjoyed reading (especially in German) and genealogy. Throughout his lifetime, he was an active church member: first, in the Churches of God, General Conference and, later in life, the United Church of Christ.

He is survived by his children: son, David Frick, Albany, CA; son, Daniel, husband of Tamara Goeglein, Lancaster; daughter, Susan, wife of Ronald Searl, Westmont, IL; sister, Esther Schneider, Quarryville, PA; brothers: Paul Frick, Lancaster, and David, Zanesville, IN; and five granddaughters: Rachel and Sarah Foster and Eleanor, Evelyn, and Lillie Frick.

Ivan was preceded in death by his beloved wife Ruth and his siblings Lillian Frick Raihl and Charles, Walter, Richard, and Robert Frick.

Two memorial services are planned. The first on Saturday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m. at Santee Chapel, Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 West James Street, Lancaster. A second service will be held on Saturday, October 13 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 125 West Church Street, Elmhurst. A reception will follow both services.

Private interment will be in Lancaster Theological Seminary's Stalfa Memorial Garden and the Elmhurst College Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Gifts may be made to the Frick Endowed Book

Fund of Elmhurst College online at www.elmhurst.edu/give and, under Area of Support, select Frick Endowed Book Fund. You may also make your gift by calling the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (630) 617-3600. Gifts also may be mailed to: Elmhurst College, Attn: Office of Development, 190 S. Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126. Checks should be made payable to Elmhurst College, and should specify Frick Endowed Book Fund in the memo line.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **15**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Lancaster Theological Seminary
555 W. James Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Memorial Service

OCT **13**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peters United Church of Christ
125 West Church Street
Elmhurst, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Ivan E. Frick*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *I just learned of Dr. Frick's passing - my mother Ivana (Panocha) Lhota and I are keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers. We were so blessed to know Dr. and Mrs. Frick in Elmhurst. My mother started working for them in the 1980's. We emigrated from Czechoslovakia and my mother worked as a housekeeper in the College President's home. I was a child at the time and able to come with sometimes and play with toys that Mrs. Frick had at home and run through that beautiful home. I will always remember their kindness and generosity towards our family - including us in gatherings for years to come, even after my mother moved on to other work. They treated us as equals, even though my parent's English was limited at first. Both of my parents eventually graduated from Elmhurst College. I remember Dr. Frick as not only a man of true wisdom, but of kind heart and humor. We think of Dr. and Mrs. Frick often, and we send our deepest condolences to the whole family.*

- Anna (Panocha) Hanel and Ivana Lhota

Anna Hanel - September 14, 2018 at 09:57 PM

LS

“ *The Lancaster Theological Seminary community sends our heartfelt condolences to Dr. Frick's family. We were proud to count him among our distinguished alumni who left our campus to join in God's redemptive and liberating work so that all creation may flourish. We send our prayers to you as we give thanks to God for his faithful, dedicated service. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Lancaster Theological Seminary - September 10, 2018 at 04:30 PM

KS

“ *Dear Frick's. What lovely parents. We were so fortunate to have had Ruth and Ivan and my parents as dear friends. I will treasure the wonderful memories of both your parents. With deepest sympathy,*
Karen Van Nice Spurgat

Karen Van Nice Spurgat - September 08, 2018 at 03:04 PM

EV

“ *Ellen Vanderhoof lit a candle in memory of Dr. Ivan E. Frick*



Ellen Vanderhoof - September 05, 2018 at 09:32 PM

DW

“ To the entire Frick Family, Barbara and I send condolences. Unfortunately we never had opportunity to make acquaintance with you, the children, of Ivan and Ruth. However, as a former pastor of Ivan's brother, David and his wife Sandy, and an alumnus of Findlay College, we were fortunate to have contact for many years. I particularly have many meaningful and valuable memories when becoming the first chief executive of the Churches of God, General Conference. I have many meaningful and valuable memories of the purposeful life and the notable service of Dr. Ivan Frick. He graciously welcomed me to Findlay when new denominational headquarters were established. He personally provided encouragement and counsel that benefited me for seventeen years serving in that capacity. He was always like a breath of fresh air in thoughts and ideas. We thank God for the contribution of The Rev. Dr. Frick in academics, in religion and in the positive influence of his life and its impact on others. Thank you for sharing him with us all.

Dr. and Mrs. Richard E. Wilkin

Dr. Richard E. Wilkin - September 05, 2018 at 01:57 PM

MM

“ My sympathy for your family. I met Dr. Frick at an Elmhurst College homecoming. He did a lot for the college. As an Elmhurst graduate and my fellow graduates and students I want to thank you for all you did for Elmhurst in making it the college it is today. You will always be remembered and thought of with great praise. RIP

*Melissa Martin
class of 1970*

meliisa martin - September 04, 2018 at 12:18 PM

RB

“ We had the pleasure of knowing Ivan from his time at Hamilton Park United Church of Christ in Lancaster, Pa. He was a bright and engaging man who always left you with something to think about. He always left us feeling richer for our interactions. He will be missed.

Rick & Vivian Bennawit

Richard Bennawit - September 03, 2018 at 03:07 PM

PB

“ Patricia A Blank sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Ivan E. Frick



Patricia A Blank - September 03, 2018 at 10:32 AM

MD

“ I had helped Dr. And Mrs. Frick with their computers several times while they were at Willow Valley. I always appreciated our conversations on the way up to his residence after he ushered me in through the back door. He had many stories from his distinguished career in higher education and always enjoyed telling me about his sons and as well as his genealogy work. Though I did not have the opportunity to know him for long, I always enjoyed when I got that call since he was one of the most enjoyable (if not the most) clients I could ask for. Very sorry to hear of this. May God watch over the Frick family.

Mike DeBakey - September 02, 2018 at 08:35 PM

CF

“ Charles Frick lit a candle in memory of Dr. Ivan E. Frick



Charles Frick - September 02, 2018 at 03:35 PM

LA

“ I knew Ivan from Findlay College. I was there as a student from Lancaster County and was glad to meet someone from the area. He was always so personable and involved in campus life. Reconnected again when he moved to Willow Valley where my parents are residents. He certainly left his mark at Findlay and Elmhurst! What an outstanding gentleman!

Louise (Wentz) Aument

Louise Aument - September 02, 2018 at 02:23 PM

DC

“ Doug Cochran lit a candle in memory of Dr. Ivan E. Frick



doug cochran - September 02, 2018 at 10:51 AM

PB

“ Patricia Blank lit a candle in memory of Dr. Ivan E. Frick



Patricia Blank - September 02, 2018 at 10:49 AM

DB

“ My name is Dan Bender. I've Had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Frick a number of times during his walks around the Glenn pond at Willow Valley. I am a landscape contractor doing work for WV at Providence Park and more recently the Vistas. He would talk to me about his interest in plants and landscape design. He was extremely inquisitive and interested in my design concepts and knowledge of plants. Not once did he offer any criticism or complaints, always eager to offer praise. I was certain I was in the company of a man with great intellect and experience . I knew him only as Ivan and will greatly miss our times by the "pond ". My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Dan G. Bender - September 02, 2018 at 09:35 AM