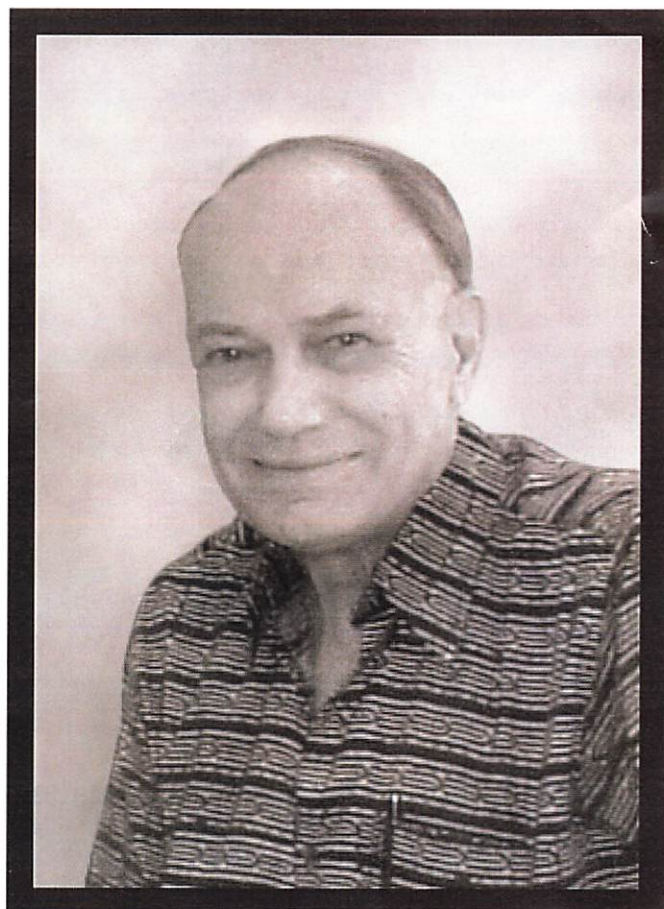


# A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF Vance Sherwood Engleman



June 8, 1936 - November 6, 2005

"A wave does not have to die in order to become water. She is water right here and now. We also do not have to die in order to enter the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is our very foundation here and now. Our deepest practice is to see and touch the ultimate dimension in ourselves every day, the reality of no birth and no death."

Thich Nhat Hanh

Saturday, November 19, 2005

11:00 am

The First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh  
605 Morewood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15213

# **Service of Celebration and Remembrance**

## **November 19, 2005**

### **Prelude**

**Grande Sonata Pathétique**  
**In C minor, Adagio Cantabile**  
**Piano – Wm Larson**

**L. van Beethoven**

### **Placing the Ashes**

*"Celebrate the significance of every life as equally valid, precious, and deserving: and most of all, celebrate THE JOURNEY! May it never end."*

*Vance Engleman, 1988*

### **Welcome**

*"The future is indeed open. Open not as in open or closed, but as in dramatic affirmation for a life design that is constantly emerging and in transit. Is the future really open? Yes, it is!"*

*Vance Engleman, 1981*

### **Silent Meditation**

*"Create a quiet and peaceful mood of serenity. Block out any noise which would distract from your purpose of being in the Ashram."*

*Vance Engleman, 1995*

### **Reading in Dialogue from the Writings of Vance Engleman**

**L:** Do not limit our learning about how to be profoundly human to old myths and dogmas of the past. Be open to discover new truths from enlightened voices worldwide.

**C:** We need to move beyond the dualism of one ism versus another ism, from them and me. We need a planetary myth that is inclusive and transparent. As long as we stay trapped in the old myths of separation, we are doomed. We must move beyond destroying each other with our many versions of old myths.

**L:** After all, we all breathe the same air, and face the same challenges

**C:** New visions will come from gurus, monks, mullahs, theologians, philosophers, scientists, and others who see themselves as social pioneers inventing new myths to live by.

**L:** If there is timeless, relevant, authentic, transparent truth in some old myths and stories, the retell them in today's context. Otherwise, enter the silence of your own inner self and seek new ways to connect with fundamental truths and deeper meanings. *Vance Engleman, 2005*

## **Reading of the Obituary**

*"In the ultimate I dwell. The ultimate is the foundation of our being, the ground of being. The ultimate, or God, or the divine, is not separate from us."* Thich Nhat Hanh

**Soprano Solo**

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**

**Andrew Lloyd Weber**

**Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again**

**Tammy Larson – Soloist**

## **Messages from the Larger Community**

*"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality....I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love and forgiveness will have the final word."* Martin Luther King, Jr.

## **Reading from N. Radhakrishnan, Gandhian Scholar and Activist**

### **Singing for "Raghupati Raghava"**

Refrain: Raghupati Raghava Rajaram  
Patita pavana Seetaram (Repeat refrain)

Seetaranm Seetaranm  
Sabhuko Sanmati de Bhagawan (Repeat verse)

(Refrain)

Ishwar, Allah tere naam,  
Sabhuko sanmati de Bhagawan. (Repeat verse)

(Refrain)

Mandir masjid tere dhaam,  
Sabhuko sanmati de Bhagawan. (Repeat verse)

(Refrain)

## **Eulogy: Witness to the Life of Vance Sherwood Engleman**

*"My life is unequivocally connected to all that is. I have a relationship with my inner self: my family: my friends: all humankind: the animals, and the environment: to the mystery of the universe, and infinity....It is all good."* Vance Engleman, 1996

## Stories from the Gathered Community

*"These are times when man seeks a renewed personal meaning and a way to share in the shaping of this world. Because we have been cared for by significant others, we too can perform necessary acts effectively."*

*Vance Engleman, 1976*

## Invitation to the Reception

*"Finally, in the words of Mother Teresa, 'simply look around you and find a situation of great need and do good there.' Do the necessary deeds required. Be healers, not destroyers, lovers, not haters, unifiers, not dividers, and practice unconditional love, forgiveness and compassion in all our engagements. Gandhi said, 'Be truthful, gentle, and fearless.' We will need those values if we are to survive and enter a new age of exciting possibilities."*

*Vance Engleman, 2005*

## Postlude

**Halleluja Chorus**

**G.F. Handel**

**Pipe organ and Heralding Trumpets**



*"If we are to teach  
real peace in this world,  
we shall have to begin  
with the children."*

*Mohandas Gandhi*



Photographs from  
Engleman Collection

## VANCE SHERWOOD ENGLEMAN

### Obituary

*read by Barbara Allending*

Vance Sherwood Engleman of Sewickley, PA died on November 6, 2005 of complications from a congenital disease, beta thalassemia. He was 69 years old. His life was a journey of focus on intentional living, training and human development, compassion for those less fortunate, peace and non-violence, and creative expression of life drawn from deeper values.

After graduation from Texas Wesleyan University in Texas and Claremont School of Theology in California, Vance was appointed a campus minister with the Wesley Foundation at Oklahoma State University. He later held leadership positions in the Ecumenical Institute, where he staffed courses of study in both the United States and outside the country in International Training Institutes. He primarily worked in the inner city of Chicago, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Australia. Vance was later employed at the Southwest Resource Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. In resource centers across the nation, training, curriculum, mentoring and support were provided to individuals and groups servicing persons with special needs.

After a two-year term in Washington, DC as a White House Fellow, Vance established Options International in 1982 as a management consulting practice that customized approaches to human and organizational development to strengthen private, not-for-profit and governmental sectors. As outside consultant to the Institute of Training and Organizational Development at the University of Pittsburgh, Vance trained and advised many mid-to-senior-level officials who came to the United States for advanced management training. He most recently worked with a Methodist Church in Houston, Texas and two YMCA branches near Pittsburgh.

Vance engaged locally in the Pittsburgh area. He recently completed a term as president of the Pittsburgh Society of Artists. His photographs of children from around the world are known to local patrons. He was aware that good artists have the symbolic power to communicate with the larger public toward using their creativity to promote peace and nonviolence. Vance was a regular presenter at chapters of the Pennsylvania Professional Employment Network where he focused on connecting persons with their employment strengths during workshops and in individualized mentoring. His local engagement also included his yard as the gathering place for an annual neighborhood picnic.

Vance was not without hobbies and personal interests. He enjoyed golf, international food, could tell a good joke, collected brooms from around the world, has a photographic display of children from many countries, was a writer, and a world traveler. He made fourteen trips to India. His brooms have been exhibited at the Utah Museum of Natural History. Yet, he maintained that grounded perspective held by a quote from Hebrew Haghade kept in his pocket address book, "We will be held accountable for all the permitted pleasures we failed to enjoy."

Vance focused on human experience that exposed life's deeper values and meaning. This is reflected in his annual written art forms begun in 1973 and published as a bound volume in 2003 by the Gandhi Media Centre of Trivandrum, Madurai, and New Delhi, India. The book is entitled, **In Search of Profound Humanness: A Collection of Writings to Stir the Senses.**

Vance became a self-taught Gandhi scholar. The full 100 volume set of the complete writings of Mahatma Gandhi is housed in the Ashram at Vance's home. Peace and non-violence became the focus of his later years. In January, 2005 Vance went to India to deliver a speech on peace and non-violence at a conference in the state of Kerala. In April of this year, he arranged speaking engagements in Pittsburgh for Gandhi scholar and chairman of the Indian Council for Gandhian Studies, Neelakanta Radhakrishnan, PhD from Kerala, India. In May, he led three workshops on peace and non-violence in the Washington, DC area, and in October, he gave a presentation at Chatham College on "Choosing the Right Means for a Lasting Peace." Until ill health claimed his time, his focus was peace and non-violence.

Vance's immediate family resides in Texas; his sister, Sue Butler and her husband Jim, niece Robyn Ray, her husband Jay and nephew, Jeff Musgrave. His former wife, Elizabeth Engleman resides in Sewickley, PA; step-daughter, Lisa Landers DuBose and step-granddaughters, Bethany and Bailey DuBose in Florida. Vance was preceded in death by his mother, Gwen Hixon and father, Gordon Engleman and step-mother, Loretta Engleman.

His values are captured in his writings. As he writes in the Introduction of his book, "It is my conviction that we can all make a difference. With a little effort we can all contribute something to make this world less violent, safer for all, and more than that, enriching and fulfilling."

## OBITUARY

### VANCE SHERWOOD ENGLEMAN

Vance Sherwood Engleman of Sewickley, PA died Sunday night, November 6 at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital from respiratory failure, a complication of the congenital disease beta Thalassemia. He was 69 years old.

Vance Engleman just completed a term as President of Pittsburgh Society of Artists. Local patrons know his photographic images of children from around the world. He served on the Board of Directors five years. In a final letter to members he commented on the foundation of his passion. "I would hope that we would use our creativity to promote a world of peace and nonviolence. Good artists have the symbolic power to communicate with the larger public. ...Not only is human life a precious gift, so is our environment. ...We can be a positive force for change and renewal of the human spirit."

Engleman was a regular presenter and highly popular speaker at five chapters of *PAPEN* (Pennsylvania Professional Employment Network). Topics included "How to Keep Your Spirits up During a Job Search"; "Thinking Outside the Box"; "Leading With Your Assets: Developing a World-class Portfolio"; and "Networking for 80% of the Jobs that are Never Advertised". His first presentation to the Network was made in 1994; his last was just weeks before his death.

*Among Friends*, another job search networking forum, which helps members find employment, was an additional organization in which Vance was an active supporter and speaker.

The Pittsburgh chapter of *Association of University People* counted Vance as a regular active member whenever health permitted.

The Engleman lawn at 304 Peebles Street was the site for an annual Neighborhood Block Party with attendance of some eighty children and adults who came from seven streets around the area to the large corner yard. It also hosted a recent "Science is Fun Party" for granddaughter and neighborhood children.

Vance adored small animals and children. His beloved domestic- medium-hair cats, Sophie and Jasper, were always found in the Ashram of the Sewickley home. The feline brother and sister were adopted from the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society in 2004.

Vance established Options International in the Pittsburgh area in 1982 after a two-year term in Washington, D.C. as a White House Fellow. The management consulting practice claimed a 35 year progressive background of customizing human resource approaches in the organizational development field for private, public and not-for-profit sectors throughout the U.S. and international.

Engleman held key leadership positions with the Institute of Cultural Affairs, Chicago and The Southwest Regional Resource Center, Salt Lake City. Contract services were provided in all 50 states, and to participants from 58 nations with extensive field experience in India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia.

Frequent international trips provided the opportunity to amass a large broom collection of unique handles and brushes constructed from materials indigenous to the country of its origin. Vance considered the broom a cultural commonalty. He began the collection in 1965, partially as a hobby but also as an attempt to demonstrate a universal cultural phenomenon. The collection was displayed in museums in Utah and the mid-west.

The broom has rarely been considered an object of importance, however, in an exhibit of Vance's broom collection at the Utah Museum of Natural History, the broom took on a whole new significance symbolizing a thread which binds together the peoples of the world in the common pursuit of improving quality of life. The international collection of brooms illustrated a universal need for order in life.

As an outside consultant to the Institute of Training and Organizational Development at the University of Pittsburgh, Vance trained and advised over 900 mid-to-senior-level officials who came to the United States for advanced management training.

For six years Vance was Chairman of The Executive Committee (TEC) of Pittsburgh. This San Diego, CA based international organization is dedicated to increasing effectiveness and enhancing the lives of Presidents and CEOs of small to medium sized companies.

In each endeavor, Vance Engleman concentrated on bringing humanness back into focus. In Search of Profound Humanness, A collection of Writings to Stir the Senses was published October 2003 by Gandhi Media Center, Trivandrum and New Delhi, India. This collection of Vance's art forms published annually since 1973, uses a writing style of poetic prose with symbols and images designed to be provocative and convey thoughts about returning humanness to humanity.

Vance became a self taught Gandhi scholar. A full 100 volume set of complete writings and works of Mahatma Gandhi is in repository at Engelman's Sewickley Ashram. His last presentation was October 8, 2005, at Chatham College in celebration of Gandhi's birthday with a speech titled "Choosing the Right Means for a Lasting Peace". The two hour discourse proved to be a life changing moment for numerous attendees.

During a 1994 interview with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, Vance asked what would be the most important thing a person could do with their life. The essence of her mandate was "Look around and find some great need—do good there".

A slight touch of Southern accent usually hinted at the fact that Vance, born June 8, 1936, was from Dallas Texas. Following graduation from Sunset High School, he met roommate James Chappell at Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas. They

formed a life-long bond. It was not unusual in those years for a visit to the famed Chicken Ranch brothel not far from the campus to be a part of freshman initiation at the University. The roommates, of course, fully participated in campus ritual.

Undergraduate work was completed at Texas Wesleyan University, Ft. Worth, TX. The degree of Master of Divinity was earned at Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA followed by ordination as a Methodist minister and appointment to a three-year term as Campus Minister with the Wesley Foundation, Oklahoma State University, and Stillwater, OK.

After introducing OSU students to the Ecumenical Institute, Chicago, IL, Vance joined the faculty there. Founded by Joseph Matthews, The Ecumenical Institute was developed to promote church renewal and religious studies in an existential context. A sister organization, The Institute of Cultural Affairs, was a family Order to cultivate self-determination for disadvantaged, and human development worldwide.

In that position he made the first of fourteen trips to India. The last one was completed January, 2005, with a presentation at Vance Engleman Hall located with the G.R. Institute of Non-violence and Shanti Sena (peace army) Trivandrum, Kerala, India. Close friend and "brother" Neelakanta Radhakrishnan, PhD., Chairman, Indian Council for Gandhian Studies remembered that last visit. "Yesterday over sixty children and adults met to remember Vance Engleman. It was hard to realize that the man who only recently played with them, sang with them, jumped with them like a young boy, cracked jokes and patted their cheeks affectionately would not return."

"If we are to have real peace in the world, we shall have to begin with the children," stated M. Gandhi. Vance Engleman has found the G.R. Institute promotes those goals and ideals in India and elsewhere. A donation to the Institute in honor of his life and passion is suggested. Make payable to GANDHI (Vance Engleman in reference line). Mail to Gandhi account, 104 Leslie Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146.

"Global man with penetrating eyes", Vance described himself in a personal ad published by the Washingtonian in the early 80's. "Mixes seriousness with pleasure. Progressive, caring, intense...seeks trim, bright, sophisticated female who would go to Calcutta with the right man. The ad proved successful.

The balanced life Engleman attempted to lead is characterized in this worn and faded handwritten quote found on the back page of his pocket address book. "We will be held accountable for all the permitted pleasures we failed to enjoy." Hebrew Haghade.

Former spouse, Elizabeth Engleman, Sewickley, was near throughout recent years of illness. Other survivors include: Sue Butler, sister, Dallas, TX; Robyn Ray, niece, Dallas TX; Jeff Musgrave, nephew, Austin, TX; Lisa Landers DuBose, stepdaughter, Lake Wales, FL; Bethany and Bailey DuBose, granddaughters, Lake Wales, FL.

Preceded in death by stepmother, Loretta Engleman, Dallas, TX; mother, Gwen Hixon, Dallas, TX; and father, Gordon Engleman, New Albany, IN.

Celebrate Vance Engleman's completed life in a MEMORIAL SERVICE, Saturday, November 19, 2005. The First Unitarian Church, 605 Morewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Memorial service 11AM, Reception 1PM. Subsequent Memorial Services will be held in Texas and India.

Vance wrote **THE JOURNEY** in 1988. "Now is the time to celebrate your incredible potential: celebrate the significance of every life as equally valid, precious, and deserving; and most of all, celebrate THE JOURNEY! May it never end."