

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Esther Webster Sweet '36N,
January 2016

William H. Form '38, '40 (MA),
October 2015

Elizabeth Wallace Rapp '38, '39N,
April 2014

Miriam Weltman Davis '40N,
December 2015

Margaret Darcy Heyer '40,
January 2016

Thomas Pryor '40,
December 2015

Olive Fosburg Reardon '40E,
November 2015

Norma Holmes Auchter '42E, '44E
(MM), '77E (DMA),
December 2015

Peggy Davis Gair '43,
December 2015

Shirley Shoop Fisher '43,
November 2015

Jessie Dyott Godsey '43,
January 2016

Louise Boswell Atwood '44,
August 2015

Robert W. Coon '44M (MD),
December 2015

John G. Hamilton '44, '46M (MD),
'53M (Res), December 2015

Margaret Ramsey Keck '45,
January 2016

Jeanette Exley Scrabble '45E,
December 2015

Anne Houlihan Keefe '46,
December 2015

Pearl Dunn Klionsky '46,
December 2015

Ella Vosburg Cripps '47E,
March 2015

Elaine Evans Osseck '47E,
January 2016

Edwin J. Spurgiesz '47,
December 2015

Paul L. Abel '48E, '50E (MM),
January 2016

Helen Furman Hackshaw '48,
January 2016

Gertrude Melville Hart '48,
January 2016

Emma Black King '48E (MA),
January 2016

Norman A. Levin '48,
November 2015

George P. Whitfield '48E, '50E
(MM), November 2015

Dorothy Dobmeier Berdan '49N,
December 2015

Dantan H. Clayton '49E,
January 2016

James L. Harrington '49M (MD),
'50M (Res), November 2015

Sofia Dandreaano Korn '49,
December 2015

Carl F. Leavens '49,
December 2015

TRIBUTE

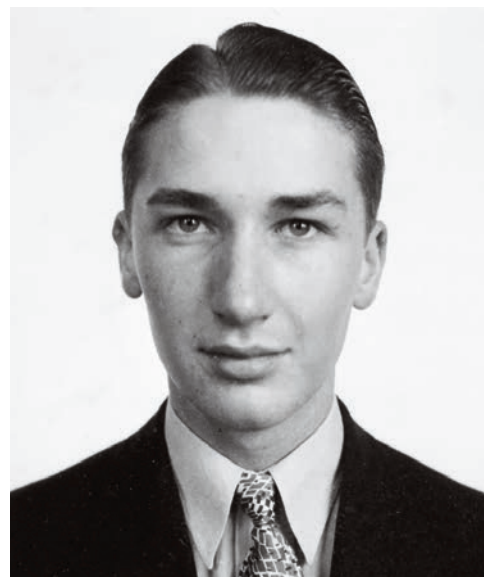
Thomas Pryor '40: A Step-Grandparent and Alumnus who Embodied *Meliora*

It was a typical wintery night in Rochester—bone-chillingly cold, and I was finishing up a game of squash when I remembered my step-grandfather, Tom Pryor '40, telling me about a plaque with his name on it somewhere in the Goergen Athletic Center. I had been a Rochester student and member of the club squash team for nearly three years and had never noticed it. When I found it, it would be the first and last time I would be able to see his plaque before his death last December.

Tom was born and raised in Rochester, and after graduating from the University, went on to earn an MBA from Harvard. He always told me that he credited Rochester for not only offering him an exceptional education, but also building him up to be the man he would become in his professional career and personal life. As an alumnus, he felt obligated to give back to the school. He served on the Trustees' Council, and contributed toward the development of the Goergen Athletic Center.

He was not only a devoted alumnus; he was also a lovable, kind-hearted step-grandfather. As a kid, my family and I would travel down to Florida at least once a year to visit him and my biological grandmother in Key Biscayne. For hours, I would sit down and listen to Tom's stories of his life both in and out of college. Even as a hyperactive kid, I would never have trouble sitting down with Tom to listen to his life's experiences. He had many words of wisdom that he shared with me. There was one piece of advice that stuck with me the most: "Do the right thing if it fulfills yourself and feels like the right thing to do, not because you want to be acknowledged for it, or to impress others."

Years later, I realize that Tom embodied *Meliora*—"Ever Better." He gave back because he



FRESH FACE: Pryor, pictured as a freshman, considered Rochester pivotal in his personal as well as professional development.

felt like it was the right thing to do. He didn't care about being acknowledged for his contributions to the University, although he was very appreciative of it.

Every time I pass his plaque on the squash courts, I think about his words of wisdom, the lives that he touched, and the legacy he left behind for me to continue. I'll love him always. **R**

—ERIK CHIODO '17

Chiodo is copy editor of the Campus Times. Adapted and reprinted, with permission, from the essay "A Letter to My Grandfather," which was published in the Campus Times, in print and online, on January 29, 2016.

Hugh D. Outterson '49,
January 2016

Richard B. Tobin '49M (MD),
December 2015

Russell D. Johnson '50,
August 2015

Robert B. Kelley '50,
December 2015

Gardner N. Moulton '50M (MD),
December 2015

Morris E. Richardson '50,
December 2015

Diane Gruhle Strassburger '50E,
January 2016

Francis A. Sullivan '50,
December 2015

Mary Louise Craig '51,
November 2015

Jean Armstrong Hendrickson '51,
August 2014

Russell J. Redman '51,
December 2015

Edwin E. Gordon '52E, '53E (MM),
December 2015

Theodore J. Hodges '52E,
September 2015

William H. Jones '52,
December 2015

Charles J. Amorese '53,
December 2015

Joan Arfmann Morgan '53, '54N,
December 2015

Donald C. Nickason '53,
December 2015

Mary Fricker Tyndall '53,
January 2016

Harold N. Langlitz '54 (Mas),
November 2015

J. Robert Yoder '54M (MD),
December 2015

Beverly Sparks Dick '55E,
January 2016

Sallyann Reed Rice '55N, '58,
January 2016

Letha Mae Brown Ridley '55 (Mas),
December 2015

C. Richard Van Niel '55,
January 2016

TRIBUTE

Alice Denham '50 (MA): A Charismatic Fixture of Literary New York

"I remembered when the UNC English Department helped me get a graduate scholarship at the University of Rochester," Alice Denham '50 (MA) wrote in her 2006 autobiography, *Sleeping with Bad Boys*. "Why not here at Chapel Hill?" she asked her favorite professor. "Because this college discriminates against women," he allegedly replied.

Denham, who died in January at the age of 89, fulfilled many roles during her career. She's best known as a writer and a model who frequented the literary salons as well as the bedrooms of New York's literary elite throughout the 1950s.

She was also a gifted student of literature, both at North Carolina, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa, and at Rochester, where she completed a master's thesis—a copy of which sits in the stacks of Rush Rhees Library—entitled "T. S. Eliot: His Theory and Practice of Poetic Drama."

Denham recalled that she never had a woman professor at Chapel Hill. There weren't many in the 1940s. At Rochester, she took courses with Bernard Schilling, George Curtiss, Wilbur Dunkel, and Kathrine Koller—not just a woman professor, but the chair of the English department.

Among the courses Denham completed were The History of Ideas (taught by Schilling); The English Novel (taught by Curtiss); and a course in 18th-century literature, also taught by Schilling, which she would have attended along with undergraduates in the honors program. She was granted her master's degree on June 12, 1950, at the University's Centennial Commencement.

Unlike prominent writers Galway Kinnell '49 (MA) and Shirley Jackson (who was enrolled as an undergraduate from 1934 to 1936, but did not complete her degree), Denham does not appear to have had any writing published in the student literary journals. Her alumna file is slim. It includes an Alumni Office questionnaire in which she reports her August 1950 marriage to Samuel Lee Kutz '50, and their subsequent divorce, granted 16 months later.

In January 1955, Denham wrote to *Rochester Review* with an item to be included in Class



MODEL & WRITER: Denham had a dual career, noting in one instance that "sexy pictures" earned her more money than her feature stories.

Notes: her short story "The Deal" had been published in *Discovery* #5. It was the same story that would be reprinted in the July 1956 issue of *Playboy*, in which she was also the centerfold. A newspaper clipping describes her *Playboy* appearance—"... Alice got a package deal for her pictures and her story"—and includes her comment: "The fact that they would pay more for some sexy pictures than for their featured story just about sets the tone of the magazine."

She concluded her letter to *Review* by noting, "The REVIEW is becoming more interesting all the time!"

To an alumna who would go on to publish poetry and novels, and to serve as a founding

member of the National Organization of Women, it seems fitting to return the compliment: throughout her long life, Alice Denham became more interesting all the time. **R**

—MELISSA MEAD

Mead is the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.

Richard H. Arfman '56, '62S (MS),
January 2016

Pauline Hughes Blossom '56, '57N,
December 2015

Walter D. Conway '56 (PhD),
September 2015

Irwin Wagman '56,
November 2015

Robert W. Tolf '57 (PhD),
December 2015

R. Patrick McCarty '58E (PhD),
November 2015

Martin L. Suter '59,
January 2016

Richard J. Windgassen '59 (PhD),
October 2015

Bruce D. Wolfanger '59, '71S (MBA),
January 2016

John F. Hasenauer '60S,
January 2016

Janet Moyer Hilliard '61N,
January 2015

Russell O. Glauser '62D,
March 2014

David W. Bentley '63M (MD),
January 2016

Irene Wegman Mossey '63W (MA),
December 2015

Stuart A. Babcock '64M (MD),
December 2015

Alexander L. Johnson '64 (PhD),
November 2015

Jay B. Wells '64M (PhD),
December 2015

Richard C. Sowa '65S,
December 2015

Lynne Zeglob Check '66,
January 2015

Richard G. Packard '66,
January 2016

Nancy Rhodes Rehner '66N (MS),
December 2015

Barbara Gibson Smullen '66N, '69N
(MS), '83W (EdD), December 2015

Carleton C. Stewart '67M (PhD),
August 2015

David G. Dickover '68,
January 2016

Allan H. Smith '68S,
December 2015

Robert O. Crapo '69M (MD),
December 2015

Charles F. Stamm '69W (Mas),
December 2015

Robert M. Hartong '70,
December 2015

John F. Irwin '70M (PhD),
December 2015

Leslie M. Finder '71,
December 2015

Lawrence I. Liebmann '71,
December 2015

John P. Tischio '71M (PhD),
January 2016

Michael D. Samuels '72, '79 (MS),
November 2015

George A. Schutt '72, '88S (MBA),
January 2016

Margaret Bengtson Woestehoff
'72W (MA), December 2015

Robert D. Posner '73,
January 2016

Nancy Salzer '73 (MA),
January 2016

Magdy Sifain '73 (MS),
December 2015

Calvin Steinmetz '74,
December 2015

Dell H. Warnick '74,
December 2015

Phyllis Jenkins '75W (Mas),
December 2015

John K. Maine '75,
December 2015

Thomas M. McCarthy '76, '88 (MA),
December 2015

Nathaniel O. Wilson '78, '83 (MS),
January 2016

Selcuk Cihangir '81 (PhD),
December 2015

Charles T. Carlstrom '86 (MA), '89
(PhD), January 2016

Patricia Palmer '87W (EdD),
December 2015

JoAnne Petronio '89W (MS),
January 2016

Alice Mees '93,
October 2015

Philippe Von Ehrenberg '01S
(MBA), August 2015

Alexander J. Conn '04,
January 2016

John R. McCarthy '08W (EdD),
December 2015