

TOM HAINES MEMORIAL RECEPTION Part 1

May 5, 2024, 2-5 PM

SPEAKERS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Polly Cleveland • Jess Dannhauser • Marilyn Gunner • Mindy Lewis • Tom Sakmar • Dave Deamer • Kym Watson • Vince Boudreau • Avril Haines

Polly Cleveland: Can people hear me? Yo!

Speaker 1: Yes.

Polly: We are-- at least temporarily, minus our fearless leader from the eye of the storm up at City College, Vince Boudreau, the president. He will be here shortly, but I will proceed anyway, and hope that I remember to introduce and thank everybody. I'm just overwhelmed that all the wonderful people, some I haven't seen in years who have come out to say goodbye, and honor, and remember my wonderful husband Tom. Excuse me for... [chuckles] I want to thank Kevin Gardner and Jenn Chow, wherever they are, because they spent the whole month of April putting this event together up at the ASRC, that's the Advanced Science Research Center, only to have events overtake us.

This is the result of a four-day mad scramble. I hope everybody finds a seat, or at least if they are fit enough to stand for a little while. I'd also like to thank David Jeruzalmi who supplied this wonderful device known as an Owl, and it's watching you, and two women without whom I wouldn't be here, and that is Manette Berlinger and Debbie Berger, who conspired to introduce me to Tom way back in 1985. I guess they decided I was just the thing for him. I'm grateful because he was just the thing for me.

Anyway, today, you are going to hear a lot about Tom's many accomplishments, including the medical school, the seminar. I forgot to put that in the list. He set up the CCNY seminar, and his outgoing, going out to help so many people. Whether to find summer jobs for their kids, listen to them or to accompany them to the hospital. Just the most friendly, outgoing person I've ever known. What a find. In any case, you're going to hear all about that, but since I am his wife, I can tell you also that he was not a saint.

[laughter]

Polly: First of all, he made bad puns.

[laughter]

Polly: When he called me up for our first date, he introduced himself, and he said, "I'm a lipid chemist. I get together with my colleagues, and we chew the fat."

[laughter]

Polly: Even towards the end when he was having a hard time speaking, he kept it up. I took him to see Martin, our family doctor, who was one of his first students. Martin says to Tom, "Tom, your heart is running fine. How is your bowel?" Tom comes right back and says, "Not running, fortunately."

[laughter]

Polly: Tom could also be incredibly stubborn, as some of you have experienced. Up at the 305 West End, that was his assisted living place, he would get into the elevator. He was on the locked 6 dementia floor. He would get into the elevator with his rollator, and he would start banging the rollator into the side of the cab because he needed to get out and teach his biochemistry course. [He said] They had to let him out of the building, and he'd keep that up for an hour. He could be pretty determined, anyway, stubborn. He used to say about his first wife, Adrian, that's Avril's mom, that she had a whim of iron.

[laughter]

Polly: That's W-H-I-M.

[laughter]

Polly: Guess what? He had a whim of iron, too, and one of his whims changed City College. Can you imagine, this was in 1970, a 37-year-old newly-tenured chemistry professor, chemistry, not a doctor, goes to the new president of City College, Robert Marshak, and says, "I have an idea. We need a new medical school. We need a new kind of medical school. A medical school that will reach out to the disadvantaged kids in our neighborhood, and moreover, a medical school that will start right out of high school, the way they do in the rest of the world except the US and Canada." He persuaded Marshak, and the two of them put this school together in two years. Their first class was 1973, and it's still going.

It's now CUNY Medical School. Tom's wife Adrian was a wonderful artist. You can see a lot of the art paintings on the wall here. After she died, Tom wanted to keep in touch with the artist world. That is why one of our speakers is here, Karen Whitman, who did the cover on this nice little brochure. Where is Karen? There you are. There's Karen. Even dressed like an artist.

[laughter]

Polly: By the way, that print back there, that was Karen's. Karen did that from our other building, and some of the other prints here are also Karen's work. That's how we stay in touch with the art world. Tom, despite his accomplishments, was very, very unpretentious. I would say on our third or fourth date, I started to ask him about his background, and he said, "I grew up in an orphanage." I looked at him and I said, "But you seem so *normal*."

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[laughter]

Polly: In any case, Mindy Lewis here who was his co-author with his autobiography, which meant recording and questioning him, did a fabulous job. There are extra copies of the autobiography if people haven't gotten them. Mindy will be telling you about that. Do you know what Tom's answer was? "I grew up in an orphanage." How terrible. "No. I was very lucky. I got to pick my parents." In fact, Tom stayed in touch with the orphanage, which is now the Graham Windham Services. In any case, since 2009, he was actually on the board of Graham. We have two speakers here, Jess Dannhauser, who was the CEO when Tom first joined, and Kym Watson, who is the current CEO, and they will be telling you a bit, too.

Tom could not pass up an injustice without deciding he had to do something. In the '90s, he took a Dominican limo service up to City College, and they told him that one of their drivers had disappeared and turned up upstate in jail. Tom called, he called the jail, he called the prosecutor. The driver, Hispanic drivers, didn't know English, had been picked up supposedly as a drug smuggler without evidence. Tom was able to get this guy out, but the sheriff had already confiscated his limo. This being part of the drug war. That got Tom all fired up, and that led to the Partnership for Responsible Drug Information, which put on lectures and conferences.

Charles Adler who was Tom's co-conspirator at the Partnership for Responsible Drug-- We'll tell you more about that. Then come 9/11, Tom was horrified by the harassment of Muslim students at City College and elsewhere. That led to the Freedom Legal Defense and Education Fund, which he chaired with Norman Siegel, who is apparently not here yet.

Speaker 2: He's right here, apparently.

Speaker 3: He's right.

Polly: Around the corner. Hi, Norman. We did a democratic politics, we did fundraisers for promising democratic candidates, and Tom's co-conspirator, and that was Trudy Mason. Tom was above all a scientist, and here it says oldest friend of Danny Greenberger, we're delighted to have him. His oldest friend from CUNY. There are a number of scientists who I'll introduce in a moment. Tom did his dissertation and subsequent research on a very nasty little protozoan called *Ochromonas danica*, and it lived in Danish bogs, which is why it was called danica. It both could photosynthesize and poison fish for dinner. It killed people. At any case, this bug was a facultative phagotrophic phytoflagellate. Tom had that on a T-shirt.

[laughter]

Polly: In any case, Tom loved danica so much that he named his dog after it. After that, he named his daughter after it. His daughter Avril Danica Haines.

[laughter]

Polly: One of the best things Tom did for me was to introduce me to the biophysics community, which left me wondering why I switched to the dismal science instead of staying in physics. It's been wonderful knowing so many wonderful scientists and learning about their work. We will be hearing from Kim Lewis. Over there. Who Tom met as a kid in the Soviet Union, and helped him get here, and now he is a big developer of new antibiotics, including for Lyme disease. Bruce Diner is here somewhere. There he is. Hi, Bruce. Who was one of Tom's students in the '60s and can tell you about Tom's laboratory approach. Marilyn Gunner who's somewhere here, who-'s

Speaker 2: She's over there.

Polly: -another proton fiend just like Tom, and she's a physics professor at City College. Tom Sakmar. Tom was in Tom's lab at Rockefeller, especially helping all of those Chinese or other postdocs who needed a little help with their English and writing their papers. Richard Burger, who is there, another biochemist. Fred Phillip who is here somewhere. There he is. Fred Phillip. DJ David Jeruzalmi who saved my life with the Owl. Pei Pei Wu over there, another student of Tom's from China. Dave Deamer, who I hope is on zoom, another proton guy and interested sharing Tom's fascination with early life. At the very end, we will hear again from Tom, which is Tom's thank you to the guests at his 88th birthday party. Now, has Vince made it yet?

Speaker 3: He'll be here at 2:45.

Polly: At 2:45. We might as well move right along with the program. Whoa. The next speaker was supposed to be-

Polly: -Jess Dannhauser.

Jess Dannhauser: Thank you, Polly.

Polly: I meant to say, in case Tom is out there listening on Zoom-- He could be on Zoom, right?

[laughter]

Polly: [inaudible 00:15:12] everywhere. I love you, Tom, and we all love you.

[sound cut]

Jess: Polly asked us not to read and to speak from the heart, so I'll endeavor to do that. I got to know Tom when he joined the Graham Windham board, and I became very close to him quickly. I write about how I was always interested in what the world looked like through Tom's eyes and to spend time with him, someone who went through an awful lot as a young child and chose to be an optimist and to see the world so curiously, as Mindy coined the title of his autobiography. Polly, I know you did so much work on that as well. While I talk about his eyes, one of my favorite

stories about Tom is in one my first board meetings as CEO at Graham Windham, the board was grilling me on a new budget.

I was asking for a lot of extra spending in order to do some investment. There were some board members including one who rarely came who was going on and grilling me for quite some time. After about half an hour of questions, Tom is actually in sunglasses. He had something on his eyes. The whole board meeting, he's sitting quiet with his sunglasses on, and I'm wondering what he's thinking. Suddenly he just blurts out, "Let's take a vote for once and for all." I got my first budget a Graham Windham because of Tom. Polly, Tom, and I developed a wonderful tradition of walking the park during COVID, and I got to know Polly.

I hope no one turned her in for bringing peanuts for the park because I learned about many animals in the park because Polly would sprinkle our walks with peanuts. Tom was so interested in me, always. Always checking in. Obviously, that slowed as his illness progressed. One day I walked in, one of our final walks in the park, which moved over the west end later, and Tom was thrilled, he was very excited. He could tell I was someone he wanted to see. He came down and said, "You're not going to believe it. We're here in Philadelphia, and they have moved Central Park to Philadelphia and my entire apartment building. They even put the trash where it was supposed to be."

[laughter]

Jess: He stayed curious his whole life. He was just interested in how they did it. Before I close, I visited Tom a couple times at West End Avenue. Polly, a tribute to you, you are so doting. My wife is here. To see a wife like that, you figured out that he would eat as long as fried onions was with it, and he had a smile to his last day. Thank you for having us. I'm so, so grateful. Love you, Tom.

Polly: Thank you Jess. Next speaker is Marilyn Gunner. Marilyn?

Marilyn Gunner: I'm here.

Polly: You better come around the corner where we can see you.

Marilyn: Sure. here I am. Can you see me here? All right. I'm going to be brief, calm. When you said stubborn, I had stubborn in my head. Tom had so much engagement. The short guy, he'd be bent over, looking like Danny. Looking engaged, whether it was politics, whether it was science, whether it was, "How should we do this?" My best memories are Polly, and Tom, and I would rent a house together when we'd go to a conference in Telluride to have parties which had all the booze, and everybody at night, and everyone talking science, and it was because Polly and Tom are just the most natural hosts and always want to have us together. We really miss Tom. We really thank you, Polly.

Polly: Thank you,. Mindy?

Mindy Lewis: Thank you. It is so amazing to be here and see all these people that I, as the conduit for Tom's stories, feel like I know and that I have written about. I met Tom through my wonderful artist friend, Karen Whitman.

Polly: Left a little closer to the Owl. They pick you up.

Mindy: Hi, Owl. At one of Karen's printmaking shows, I met Tom again, and he didn't remember me at first, but I certainly remembered him. Because he was unmistakable with his bow tie and his gleaming forehead and his wide smile and twinkle. He immediately engaged me in conversation. He launched into the story of having grown up at the orphanage, which he described as being a wonderful thing in his life. Then from the orphanage, growing up in right-wing Hastings, and then going next to City College where he became a left-wing radical. He lived in the bosom of the blacklist folks at the home of Jay Gorney.

It struck me right away that his life was this series of radical reversals. Tom was telling me about his life, and then he said to me, "What do you do?" I said I was a writer, and he said, "Oh, you should write my life story." [inaudible 00:21:40] He was serious and he persisted, and I said no to him several times. I tried to hook him up with a professional ghostwriter, but he beguiled me into it. It really was so fortunate that he did because it was such an adventure writing this book. We would sit right here at this little table every other Monday for a year and a half for a couple of hours in the afternoon.

He would do that lean across the table, and just story after story after story about all of these many lives that he lived in his life as orphan and educator, college student, elementary school teacher, college professor, research scientist. It was just story after story. One of the challenges was reining him in. He would go on these lengthy digressions, and I would have to lead him back. Sometimes we would really butt heads. As everyone knows, he could be incredibly stubborn. Once he latched on to something, he would not let it go, even if it was a little off. One time I was on vacation in Florida, and my cell phone rings.

Tom is holding forth about Sudetenland after World War II because we had disagreed about that. I learned so much from Tom. I learned about the Graham School, which is remarkable. Hi, Kym and Jess, wonderful Jess. We had field trips. We went together to the Graham School one day, just he and I, and then later, a group of us. I learned about American history. I learned about musical theater. I learned about activism. I learned about real estate. I learned about insects and gardening and lipids. He loved his lipids. He would explain to me, he would always like to have to draw me a diagram and often tell a joke.

A lot of the jokes-- some of them are in the book. It just was so enriching for me because as a memoirist and somebody who teaches memoir, it was always me, me, me memoir. With Tom, it was the whole world. It was everything. A curious life really says it because it wasn't really just an unusual life. It was a life of curiosity with his remarkable intellect, capacious intellect and always interested in people, including

me. He became a wonderful friend to me and Polly, the wife of the brilliant man, in her own right, was a brilliant woman and a great friend.

He was also very proud of the people in his life. Themes would emerge in writing in his storytelling. Among them was mentorship. It was very important to him. Mentoring others, finding mentors in life and mentoring others. He really was full of love with people. He was a little wacky. I just adored him. I'm so grateful. I'm verklempt at this moment, just to be here with everybody. I wish Tom were here, but I'm so grateful. Also, in terms of gratitude, he never hesitated to express his gratitude to me. He would do that, he would kiss my hand **[inaudible 00:25:31]** in a nursing home, he would do the same with the people who worked there.

When Polly was talking about his getting into the elevator, it struck me that that's-- At the Graham school, he was always running away. He was always engaging with people, so he was still the same Tom. Anyway, thank you, Tom. I **[inaudible 00:25:53]**.

Polly: It's getting a little hot in here. Maybe somebody can further open the windows in the back or the windows there. I'm hot up front, but it's quite chilly out. There it is. Let's get a little more air. Thank you. What?

Speaker 5: **[unintelligible 00:26:20]**

Polly: No, I seem to be emceeing, but **[inaudible 00:26:24]** I hope Vince hasn't been caught in a demonstration. Next on the list is Tom Sakmar, a wonderful friend and colleague. Tom?

Tom Sakmar: Thanks. [silence] Tom Haines was my friend and colleague and a visiting professor in my lab at Rockefeller University for nearly 20 years after his formal retirement from City University. Today, I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences to Polly, and to Avril, and David, and to Tom's extended family and friends. I should say at the outset that I'm speaking now on behalf of the 46 students, fellows, and visiting scientists, and colleagues in my lab, who Tom helped and influenced while he was an associate with Rockefeller University. I wrote to each of them about Tom's passing this past December, and there was an immediate outpouring of sympathy and fond remembrance about Tom.

I have three aims today. The first is to relate to you what Tom meant to me as a friend. Secondly, to tell you a little bit about Tom's scientific interests and about what Tom meant to me as a scientific colleague. Finally, to tell you about how Tom influenced students and postdoctoral fellows in my lab as a mentor. Tom was truly my best old new friend. By that, I mean that Tom was the best friend that I made in that part of my life when new friends are hard to come by. How do you meet friends when you are approaching 60? Of course, it's never too late in life to make a new friend, but it becomes increasingly difficult and improbable.

I had known Tom peripherally as a professor at City University and an organizer of one of the best lecture series on the planet. Then somehow out of the blue, Tom

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contacted me, and we had dinner together. The first of a long series of meetings and dinners. He was planning retirement and needed a place to land. Could I help? It turns out that I could help. Eventually, Tom became a visiting professor in my lab at Rockefeller University. Here, I want to spend a few minutes describing Tom as my friend. Tom was a passionate person. I have met many passionate people, but frankly, not all of them are friends material, if you know what I mean.

The key is being able to combine passion for your own interests with enthusiasm for the interests of others, and Tom had that gift. He was passionate and enthusiastic, but above all else, he was a generous person. He wanted to help others and especially the underdog. He could be a passionate advocate for the otherwise overlooked and underrepresented. Of course, Rockefeller University is not exactly a haven of the underdog, but it turns out that there are many students at Rockefeller who don't fit the preconceived notion of the Ivy tower pre-programmed overachiever.

Many Rockefeller students succeed the old-fashioned way by hard work and perseverance, and for whatever reason, many of them end up studying in my lab. Tom was a great mentor and sponsor to many of them, and I will come back to that a bit later. Tom, my friend, was passionate, enthusiastic, trusting, generous, but if I had to use one word to sum up Tom as a person, it would have to be integrity. He was consistent, principled, and unwavering. He was the same person day to day and year to year. Tom was defined by his integrity. While we're on the subject of integrity, this might be a good point to talk about Tom as a scientist, and that's because Tom was interested in cell membranes.

What are membranes? Membranes are the biological structures that give integrity to cells, the small units of life. Every cell of every kind is defined by membranes, a strange, thin, flexible, and dynamic film that keeps the inside in and the outside out. A membrane defines the cell integrity. Tom, with high integrity, studied what makes cells integral. He was interested in the unusual fatty lipids that make up the membrane and discovered that these lipids sometimes contain chlorine and sulfur atoms. He correlated how the presence of those lipids prevent the passage of charged molecules and charged proton ions across lipid bilayers.

The regulation of ion transport across cell membranes is how cells create energy in the form of ATP. Tom studied cell membrane bilayers and was particularly fascinated by microbial sulfo lipids, which Polly alluded to earlier. Tom witnessed many of the key biochemical and biological advances in membrane research in five decades of his active teaching and research career. He literally knew every major scientist in the field due in part to his involvement in the City College series, but also as a member of the faculty for decades studying membranes and teaching membrane biology.

As one example of Tom's early influence, he was invited to the USSR Academy of Sciences to chair the first symposium on lipids ever hosted by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemists. This conference took place in Riga, Latvia in 1970 and was famous for the presence of early pioneers in the field, such as my own eventual scientific mentor, Gobind Khorana, a Nobel prize winner just a year earlier.

I'm certain in nearly 50-plus years of teaching and research, Tom has met thousands of people, but even towards the end of that remarkable period, he remained committed to mentorship and sponsorship and helped many Rockefeller students to improve their experiments, write-ups, and presentations.

As I noted during his time as a member of my lab, Tom overlapped with nearly 50 different students. He attended the thesis lectures of at least 10 students and kept in contact with many of those even after they left the lab. In Tom's case, I truly believe that he considered all of his scientific acquaintances to be his friends. That's the type of person he was, trusting, generous, positive, affable. He put energy into relationships. He excelled as a connector, and as far as I know, he never had a bad word to say about anyone. In countless conversations, I got to know Tom as a scientific colleague, person, and friend. I benefited from his wisdom, enthusiasm, tenacity, and spirit.

I think about Tom almost every day, and I really feel the impact that he had on so many people in my lab group, not to mention my own three young children. He was a man of passion, enthusiasm, generosity, and integrity. He was a patient friend, mentor, teacher, dedicated to the principles of fairness, equity, and advocacy for the underdog. Those qualities and many others defined Tom's unique optimistic personality. These qualities I value in people are the Tom Haines-esque qualities. Some people have a few of these qualities, but Tom had all of them. As we pay tribute to Tom and celebrate his life today, I urge us all to try to emulate him a little bit. Let's dedicate ourselves to carrying forward Tom's legacy.

[background conversation]

Polly: [inaudible 00:35:21]

Speaker 6: Rejoin the screen. There. [inaudible 00:35:25]. [silence]

Polly: The last two speakers are only showing up at chest level on screen. That's what happens when you have an Owl. However, it is almost three o'clock, and one of our Zoom distance speakers, I hope is still there. Dave Deamer?

Speaker 3: He's not.

Polly: He's not.

Speaker 3: [unintelligible 00:35:58]

Polly: Then it sounds like he had to leave. His daughter was singing in a choir or something.

Dave Deamer: Polly, I'm here.

Polly: Oh, he's here.

Dave: Thanks for making time for me, Polly. I really appreciate it. I knew Tom as a scientist, and so I'm going to tell you about our collaboration. In 1980, my graduate student-- Can everybody hear?

?Speaker 3: Yes.

Polly: Yes, we can hear you.

Dave: Good. My graduate student, Wylie Nichols, and I published a paper claiming that cell membranes are a million times more permeable to protons than to other ions, such as sodium and potassium. This was very controversial, and we got into quite a squabble with a well-known biophysicist trading papers in the literature. Tom liked it. Tom wrote to me, and no email in those days, of course, and said he'd like me to come out and give a talk about this at CCNY. All expenses taken care of. I said, "Of course, I'll come," and I'm sure glad that I did.

Tom was a wonderful tour guide. It was my first time in New York with a New York native to explain all the intricacies of life in an apartment and right there in the middle of the city. I got to know Tom and his family. I, of course, got to know Tom as a scientist and realized why he had written to me. Tom had a big idea. It concerned how protons moved around in living cells and particularly how they influenced what we call the proton motive force across mitochondrial membranes. Now, why was this important?

To answer that question, I'm going to quote from one of Tom's most cited papers, published in 2002 with a co-author, Norbert Dencher. "This article explores a unique role of cardiolipin as a proton trap within membranes that conduct oxidative phosphorylation and therefore the synthesis of ATP. Cardiolipins pK, above eight, provides a role for it as a headgroup proton trap for phosphorylation. It suggests why cardiolipin is found in membranes that pump protons." That's a brilliant idea. It was Tom's own idea. His paper has now attracted 400 citations in the literature. Now, you may not know this, but this is the way the scientists applaud each other.

We cite each other in other people's papers, and a really good paper will get hundreds of citations. In the early 1990s, Tom took a sabbatical leave in California, and we could spend more time together. I'm going to quote something that he told me over lunch. "California is so boring, I can't even find anyone to fight with." Stefan Paula was another grad student in my laboratory, and Tom was able to help Stefan think about the significance of what he had done. Tom became a co-author of a paper published in the *Biophysical Journal*, 1996, which has now been cited 700 times.

That's close to a standing ovation or a paper published in a major scientific journal. I'll close now. Last year, I read *A Curious Life*, Tom's autobiography and I realized that he was much more than just a fellow researcher. Tom, his wife, Polly, his daughter, Avril, are part of a much larger world. It's my great good fortune to have known Tom and to join you in celebrating his life today. Thank you.

[pause 00:41:00]

Polly: I'm going to skip Vince for the moment because--

Kym Watson: I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. There's a ship in the harbor that I have to catch so I'm sorry. My husband would be furious. I'm Kym Watson by the way. I'm sorry. I was not given the directive to speak from the heart and speak as it comes to me because I think Polly knows that if you tell me to do that, I can go. **[inaudible 00:41:46]** I scripted some words, but in the interest of time, I really will try to say less than two minutes.

Polly: Don't cut it too much. It's a wonderful thought.

Kym: First of all, it is for me--

?Speaker 3: [inaudible 00:41:57]

Kym: Am I good?

?Speaker 3: Yes.

Kym: It is powerful for me that we are in this room gathered the way that we are as a Graham team and I'm sure many of you have had the experience of sitting in this room. As a Graham team we've spent afternoons coming together around Graham SLAM, our Graham SLAM model, and just so many opportunities to come together and to talk about Graham and the future of Graham and the leadership of Graham. Tom was always insistent that Graham being the oldest non-sectarian childcaring organization in the country needed to have more influence and more impact than we had and had really very well thought out ideas about how we should do that. We got to hear them in this room.

It's really powerful for us to be here. I have so many memories of Tom about mentorship. Tom became a mentor to me. He saw in me what I didn't see in myself. One day after a board meeting, he turns to Jess and me and we are talking about-- I don't even remember what. He walks over. He says to Jess, "She's going to be the next CEO of Graham." You've got to get her ready. My jaw dropped, just did like this and went, "Where did that come from?" Just came out of nowhere, this was years ago.

Then later on in that same year, I had the opportunity of spending a long weekend with Tom in Maine at the home of Marjorie Clark who was the daughter of a former Graham superintendent. He made the same proclamation there that I was going to be the next CEO, and this weekend was about getting me ready. That was not why I went there.

[laughter]

Kym: It was not, but I thought I was going to get our artifacts that belonged to Graham from Marjorie. I never got them. I didn't. Never got any of the things that I went there for, but I got something so much more powerful. He told me that weekend that he said, "Kym, my memory is slipping." I said, "Oh, Tom," I don't even know what I said. I tried to just make him feel better about it. He says, "Kym, I'm a scientist, I know it's happening to me." In this weekend, I'm going to say some things, and I want you to hear them, and I want you to remember them. I absolutely did, and I absolutely have.

The things that he told me about myself that I didn't know but that he could see in me, they're powerful, and they are what has given me more courage to be who I am today as a leader of Graham. I'm so grateful to that time to talk. I thank you. Polly, I thank you for sharing him with us, with me. I'm going to miss him, but I'm so grateful for the time that I had. **[inaudible 00:45:13]** Thank you.

Polly: Vince has made it, and I'm going to suggest Vince be-- Then we take a 15, 20-minute break and let people get up, get some coffee, get some food, and then sit back down again for the second lot of speakers. Maybe Avril will say something, too. Vince, why don't you--

Vince Boudreau: Okay.

Polly: Thank you so much for coming from the center of the cyclone. **[unintelligible 00:45:52]**

Speaker 7: It's hard to hear in the back.

Vince: I'll speak up. In 2002, I was a young chair of the Political Science Department in City College. Early on in my tenure, I wasn't yet 40 years old, and so still thinking about political science to the exclusion of everything else. I got this phone call from Tom Haines who said, "I'm really concerned about the Patriot Act. I think we really need to have a conversation on this campus where everybody comes, and it has to be in the Political Science Department, and we have to talk about the balance between freedom and security." I didn't really know what to do with that. At the time, I was just learning how to put schedules together.

I had a thought about what City College should be, and I thought about what political science should be at this place. I listened to Tom, and so he put me in touch with Norman Siegel who is here. In partnership with Tom and the department, we put together a series of talks where primarily Norman but also Tom put together these panels of prosecutors and civil attorneys and people that knew about security, and brought the entire campus in to this conversation. As I went through that series with Tom, he also talked to me about what he thought City College should be and what he thought that my job should be at City College.

He talked about how he had made impacts on campus. Very soon I learned what an important voice he was for the founding of our medical program which is now a full on medical school. He saw a moment where our specific institution situated, is

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socially geographically, in Harlem. Its great history. Had a role to play in making sure that physicians of tomorrow came from underserved populations were directed towards underserved populations. It was the same conversation he wanted me to have about freedom and security and justice. He taught me what it would mean to fully take on the responsibilities of leading my department, and those lessons I've carried with me all these years.

Tom himself was a revelation. He was so broadly interested in humanity, in service, in the arts, in medicine, in making sure the broad legacy of our institution, not his field of chemistry exclusively or my field of political science, but the idea of an institution that opened its doors to everybody was embodied not just in what we said we did but in how we thought about programming education and everything else. He's an absolute legend on our campus. Cut a striking figure in the late 1960s when what's happening on campus back then, a strong voice for academic freedom. The right of students to protest. I miss his voice now.

The last time I was in this room, I think it was last year's New Year's Eve party, but maybe two New Year Eve parties ago. Tom had been, as he said, losing a few steps. He met me at the door, and he said, "I'm so glad you're here. It's been so long since I've seen you. It's wonderful that you've come." We talked for about five minutes. Then he said, "Could you tell me who you are?"

[laughter]

Vince: I think about that, not just as somebody who is struggling with memory and recognition, but as a statement about Tom's openness to other people, his hospitality, his warmth, his embrace of basically everyone that came into his orbit that he wasn't prepared to fight with.

[laughter]

Vince: As well, I'll tell you, on our campus and my campus, this is a man who joins the canon of the greats that we've ever had. We've had some greats on this campus, but he'll be remembered both for his science and his brilliance in the laboratory, and the broad, broad faith in our ability, as a community, to make the world a better place.

Polly: Thank you so much, Vince. Wow. Maybe I was too close to him. Sometimes I didn't realize **[inaudible 00:51:32]**.

[laughter]

Polly: I miss him. Avril, would you like to say something?

Avril Haines: Sure. **[inaudible 00:51:43]**. I won't say much. First of all, it's wonderful to be here today. As Polly said, dad used to say, "I was lucky, I got to choose my parents, we get to choose our parents." Instead, I got decided for me two extraordinary, extraordinary parents. I think one of the things that dad really-- he

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would talk about and ask me at the end of each day when I was a kid, "What have you done today to make somebody else's life better?"

Polly: Wow.

Avril: That was just a part of who he was. I think what he would say is the most important thing at the end of your life is to have a sense that you left the world better than you found it. I think it is clear that dad had that impact on all of us. Thank you so much for giving me an opportunity to see him through all of your eyes. Polly, I cannot imagine a better human being to be with him for the last many decades. The joy that you brought into his life was extraordinary. To watch him, and as Jess indicated then, to see you together in the last few years, just the way in which you took care of him, I know I've said this privately, but honestly, thank you so much for everything that you brought to his life. Thank you very much.

Polly: You know what, just just a moment, Danny. When Tom was at 305 West End, and he was sick with pneumonia, this was less than a year before he died. He said to one of the aides, "I can't die because Polly wouldn't have anyone to take care of her."

[laughter]

Polly: I am suggesting that we take a short break for those of you who want to stand up. We've got a lot of food here. Then come back and sit down again in about 15 minutes. Because some of you came in and didn't-- There's cookies and nice food in there, and there's coffee here. I need some coffee.

[background conversation]

[00:54:33] [END OF AUDIO]