

In Memoriam

RICHARD EDGAR PIPES

Frank B. Baird Jr. Professor of History, Emeritus
11 July 1923 – 17 May 2018



Memorial Church
Harvard University

Friday, 21 September 2018
Three o'clock in the afternoon

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Chopin, Andante spianato (1836)
(Laurence Berman, pianist)

WELCOME

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Department of History
Rawi Abdelal, Davis Center for Russian & Eurasian Studies

OPENING WORDS

Daniel Pipes, son

RABBINIC OFFERINGS

Rabbi Norman Janis, Harvard Hillel

Passage from Ben Sira (fl. 2nd century BCE), in Hebrew and English

Fear not death; we are destined to die. We share it with all who ever lived, with all who ever will be. Bewail the dead, hide not your grief, do not restrain your mourning. But remember that continuing sorrow is worse than death. When the dead are at rest, let their memory rest, and be consoled when the soul departs.

Death is better than a life of pain, and eternal rest than constant sickness. Seek not to understand what is too difficult for you, search not for what is hidden from you. Be not over-occupied with what is beyond you, for you have been shown more than you can understand.

As a drop of water in the sea, as a grain of sand on the shore are man's few days in eternity. The good things in life last for limited days, but a good name endures forever.

Psalm 23, in Hebrew and English

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

REMEMBRANCES BY COLLEAGUES

Gerald Holton, Department of Physics

Roman Szporluk, Department of History

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL EXCERPT

A passage from *Vixi: Memoirs of a Non-Belonger* (2003)
(Reading by Jonathan Daly)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Excerpt from Beethoven, Symphony No. 7, Second movement (1812), Liszt transcription for piano

REMEMBRANCES BY STUDENTS

Marvin Kalb, CBS, NBC, Kennedy School

Jonathan Daly, University of Illinois at Chicago

POETRY EXCERPT

Adam Mickiewicz, “Pan Tadeusz” (1834)
(Reading in Polish by Marek Lesniewski-Laas)

Background: *Pan Tadeusz* is the best known and most significant work by Poland’s great Romantic poet, writer, philosopher and visionary. Originally published in Paris, it is considered the last great epic poem of European literature.

In it, the author re-created the world of the gentry on the eve of Napoleon’s armies arriving in 1811-12. He depicts noblemen often in conflict with each other but uniting in a shared hope for the recovery of Poland’s independence after its full occupation in 1795.

Jankiel (i.e., Yankel), a main figure, is an elderly Jewish innkeeper known for his skill at the dulcimer, his honesty, his knowledge of the Polish language, and the ardor of his feeling for the Polish nation.

His importance to the story lies in raising patriotic fervor through a call to action, including a playing of “Dąbrowski’s Mazurka,” the music that later would become Poland’s national anthem. The passage to be read describes that remarkable concert.

REMEMBRANCES BY FAMILY

Sarah Pipes, granddaughter
Anna Pipes, granddaughter

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

Chopin, Aeolian Harp Étude (1837)

BOOK QUOTATIONS

Survival Is Not Enough (1984): “The Stalinist system now prevailing in the Soviet Union has outlived its usefulness and . . . the forces making for change are becoming well-nigh irresistible.”

The Russian Revolution (1990): “The Russian Revolution was made neither by the forces of nature nor by anonymous masses but by identifiable men pursuing their own advantages.”

Russia Under the Bolshevik Regime (1994): “The Russian Empire was a fragile, artificial structure, held together not by organic bonds connecting rulers and ruled, but by mechanical links provided by the bureaucracy, police, and army.”

Vixi (2003): “It was freedom not power that I yearned for. And on the first day out of government, I jubilantly noted in my journal: ‘Fantastic! It is 9:20 a.m.—the time I got to my office every day—and I have just arrived at the Library of Congress’.”

The Pipes family thanks the Department of History and the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies for generously hosting this event. Special thanks go to Robert Chung and Penelope Skalnik for helping with arrangements.

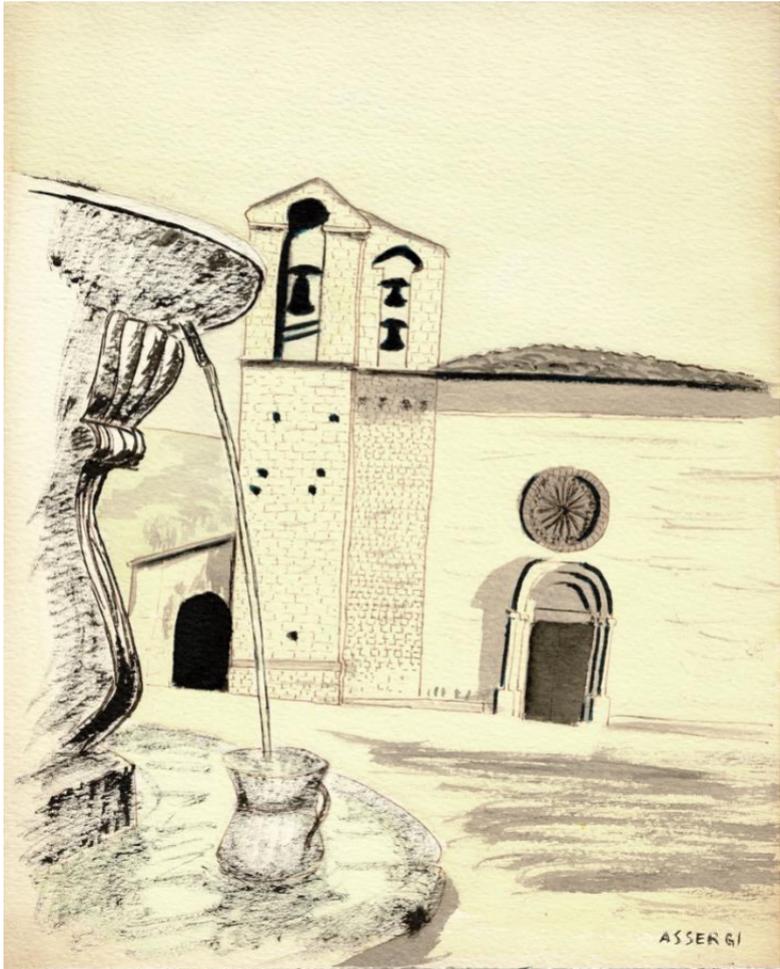
Tommy Atmer, Nicole Dubov, Anna Pipes, Elizabeth Pipes, and Sarah Pipes are kindly volunteering as ushers.



Receiving the Harvard PhD degree, June 1950.



Speaking at the Kennedy School, February 1991.



*Santa Maria Assunta Church, Assergi, Italy,
drawing by Richard Pipes, ca. 1959.*