

The love he felt for us of course brought much love in return. My wife Claire knew him for a short eleven years, but in no time she too came to feel she had in him a second father, and in truth she did. Woody Allen said he did not want to be immortal through his work, but through not dying. Well, the love and strong—painfully strong—memories, dad, you inspired in others won't make you immortal either, but they certainly extend the bounds of your life far beyond its biological reach. I take the thought quite literally that as long as those memories and emotions reside in us, who knew him, a significant bit of him is still alive.

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IN MEMORIAM

David Bushnell (1923-2010)

David Bushnell, Emeritus Professor of Latin American History at the University of Florida and former chair of the History Department there, died at the Haven Hospice in Gainesville on September 3, 2010. He was born in Philadelphia, May 14, 1923, and earned both his undergraduate degree (1943) and doctorate (1951) from Harvard University. Bushnell worked in the United States State Department from 1944 to 1946, taught Latin American History at the University of Delaware from 1949 to 1956, and then worked in the Office of the Historian of the Air Force in New Mexico and Washington, D.C. from 1956 to 1963. He joined the faculty of the Department of History at the University of Florida in 1963, and worked there until his retirement in 1991.

David Bushnell was a prolific and distinguished historian both before and after his retirement. He published many books and essays on Venezuela and Argentina, co-authored with the late Neill Macauley a leading text on nineteenth-century Latin American history (1994) and wrote a more recent biography of Simón Bolívar (2004). Most of his books have been translated into Spanish editions. Professor Bushnell served as editor of the *Hispanic American Historical Review* from 1986 to 1991, and was an advisor to many other journals and university presses.

His greatest scholarly enthusiasm, however, was post-independence Colombia, a nation he visited for the first of innumerable times in 1948 while still a doctoral student at Harvard University. As several of the obituaries in the Colombian press have stated, he was revered there as “el padre de los colombianistas” and as the scholar who opened the doors to the study of Colombia in U.S. academia. Among many honors, he was a member of the Colombian Academy of History, and in 1995 the Colombian government awarded him the Order of San Carlos for his many contributions to the history of the nation. On September 24, 2010 (unfortunately posthumously) the National University of Colombia awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Apart from his publications already mentioned the following three books are perhaps representative of his work on Colombia: *The Santander Regime in Gran Colombia* (1954, 1970); *Eduardo Santos and the Good Neighbor, 1938-42* (1967); and his best-known book on Colombia which, in Spanish translation, has become a standard text there: *The Making of Modern Colombia: A Nation in Spite of Itself* (1993).

David Bushnell's other scholarly interests were quirky and wide-ranging. He wrote, for example, on the treatment of Indians in the Plymouth Bay colony, and from his days with the U.S. Air Force he co-authored a book entitled *Space Biology: the Human Factors in Space Flight* (1960). Philately being one of his interests, he wrote about Latin American stamps. Just before his death, he completed an essay on "Philatelic Feminism: The Portrayal of Women on Stamps of Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, and the United States." Interested in iconography about Bolívar, days before his death he summoned from the Latin American Collections at the university some picture books that illustrated "The Liberator" in painting and sculpture.

Ginny, his wife of many years, and an enthusiast like David about all things Colombian, preceded him in death. Reserved, serious about his writing and teaching, and very modest about his many accomplishments, yet innately generous, courteous, cheerful, and friendly, David Bushnell is missed by his many friends around the world, by his former colleagues and graduate students, and by his sister, three children, two granddaughters, and two great-grandchildren.

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