

12/5/84

Richard A. Moeller
101 Liberty St. #5
Petaluma, Ca. 94952
707-763-3472

To whom it may concern:

I graduated from Old College in May of 1983 after an intense year of study in which I took 60 units of course work. Even though I had the benefit of three other schools and 30 years of life experience, I would never have made it without Randall's stimulating courses, formal counseling, and personal friendship. In the year I was at Old College I took three classes from Randall and two independent courses of study. The three classes were "The Philosophy of Ortega y Gasset", "Science and Mysticism", and "Man as Hunter". The two independent study courses were titled "The Evolution of Consciousness" and "The Evolution of Human Social Behavior".

As a teacher Randall possesses those characteristics that exemplify the best of teachers and are so seldom found among the majority of teachers. His approach is that of a leader not just that of an instructor. The advantage of leading a student to discovery rather than dictating to the student as a figure of instructional authority, is that when a student is lead he perceives himself to be the discoverer, rather than perceiving himself to be simply one of many receptacles into which the instructor forces his knowledge. By leading the student to discovery, Randall allows the student to become part of his own education. This allows the student responsibility for his education and to behave as a mature responsible adult.

Extrapolating from my own experience, Randall was one of the most demanding and challenging teachers I ever had. He required more reading, research and class participation than most of my teachers combined. However, through his passion, enthusiasm, and compassion for both his subjects and students he elicited the desire among us to not just complete the class requirements but to surpass them. The vast majority of students thrived, and there were one or two students in each class who had never stretched themselves, or felt that they could, who truly blossomed under Randall's influence. This has to be a tremendous reward for Randall to help a fellow human being begin the maturation process. In the classes I took from Randall, all of us survived, most of us thrived, and a few were able for the first time in their lives to open themselves up, begin to grow, and assert themselves in "public".

As my formal councilor at Old College, Randall was knowledgable and personable. He gave me guidance and direction when I needed it, a kick in the seat of the pants when necessary, and we became close friends as a result of his qualities I have mentioned above. We share a close bond of friendship I anticipate lasting to our dying days. He counts many ex-students and ex-faculty members among his friends and supporters. He was and is always open to friendship, advice, and criticism. He is gentle and humble, yet strong and knowledgable. He has an almost Christ like quality to himself. In conclusion, I have had many good teachers, a few great ones, and if asked to choose the best from among the great, Randall would be my choice.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard A. Moeller". The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping tail.

Richard A. Moeller