Memorial for Philip Young, Ph.D.

Philip Young died unexpectedly of heart-related illness on Jan. 7, 2009, at 55 years of age. Phil is remembered by colleagues, family, and friends as an extremely warm and engaging person who loved to help others and to interact with others. At the same time he was a scholar and teacher with a curiosity about all fields of learning that knew no bounds. After graduation at the University of Virginia, he went on to the University of Pennsylvania where he earned a Ph.D. in classical archaeology.

In 1979 he married Nancy Ann Stutsman; and after teaching at Appalachian State University, Phil took a position as Director of the Krannert Memorial Library at the university of Indianapolis in 1985; known as a "Renaissance Man," he was perfectly suited for a role on TV as the judge in "Brain Game," a weekly academic competition that airs on WTHR (Channel 13). Referred to as "Dr. Phil," he would preview questions for accuracy and rule on any questionable responses. His eclectic tastes and natural curiosity were evident in his office at the University, where he had on display many collectibles from all over the world: pottery, swords, ceremonial masks, jewelery, shields, art works, etc.

University Provost Deborah Balogh notes "He was so generous with his time and expertise, whether it be as a faculty member, an administrator or just a university citizen." As a scholar, he was the author of numerous books and articles; the former even included several children's books. His professional associations included the American Library Association, the American Institute of Archaeology, the Association of College and Research Libraries, Educause, and most recently the Indianapolis Literary Club.

In remembering Philip Young I am reminded of the line in the book of Daniel in the Bible where the author laments the early deaths of "those who will shine like the brightness of the stars forever and ever." May we hold his memory dear to our hearts.

Austin Ritterspach, Ph.D.