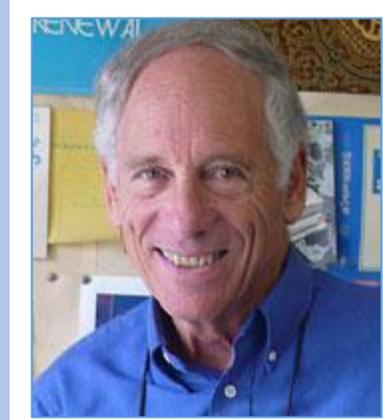


**David Schimmel**  
(March 1934 – May 2018)

The following is taken from the obituary posted by the University of Massachusetts.

David M. Schimmel, 84, of Amherst, professor emeritus of educational policy, research and administration (EPRA), passed away in May 2018.

With Harris Wofford, later a U.S. senator from Pennsylvania, he served as an assistant to Hubert Humphrey. Schimmel and Wofford came up with the idea for the Peace Corps, and Humphrey promoted it during the 1960 presidential campaign until John F. Kennedy defeated him in the West Virginia primary, after which Kennedy took the idea as his own. Kennedy charged his brother-in-law Sargent Shriver with getting the Peace Corps off the ground, and Schimmel worked with him in the Peace Corps' early years, serving in administrative posts from 1962-68.



He joined UMass Amherst in 1968 as an associate professor in education, and he retired from EPRA in the College of Education in 2009. He worked post-retirement in same department from 2009-14 and in Continuing and Professional Education from 2010-11.

His teaching, research and writing focused on promoting legal literacy for teachers.

In the forerunner of what would become EPRA, he worked with both international education and educational leadership faculty. Along with faculty member Lou Fischer, he wrote books on the civil rights of students and the civil rights of teachers. A survey of education leadership graduates who became principals indicated that they considered his “law for educational leaders” course to be the most useful course for their jobs.

He was the author or coauthor of more than 75 articles and seven books about law and education, including “Principals Teaching the Law: 10 Legal Lessons Your Teachers Must Know” and “Teachers and the Law,” 9th Edition.

He was the recipient of the Education Press Association of America’s Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Educational Journalism, the Education Law Association’s McGhehey Award for lifetime achievement, and the UMass Amherst’s Distinguished Academic Outreach Award.

Cynthia Gerstl-Pepin, Dean of the College of education, said, “David played a campus-wide role in at least two ways. One was his activities related to promoting civility. The other was in launching the campus effort to create service-learning programs and courses. David devoted his life to legal literacy and civic engagement and was the co-founder of the university's Citizen Scholars’ Program that promotes social justice through citizen action.”

He leaves his wife of 57 years, Barbara; his children Sue, John, and Josie, their spouses Shawn, Christine, and Len; and his sister, Bella.

A celebration of his life will be held this summer at the Amherst Jewish Community Center.

Donations in his memory can be made to Bend the Arc: Jewish Action ([bendthearc.us](http://bendthearc.us)) or [UMass.edu/give](http://UMass.edu/give) to one of three funds in his name: The Schimmel Maloy Fund for Civic Engagement and Learning, The Schimmel Keene Citizen Scholar Endowment, and The Schimmel Fischer Endowment for Legal Literacy.

Those wishing to send comments to Barbara Schimmel, David's wife, and his family should send them to Susan Schimmel, his oldest daughter, at [sueschim@aol.com](mailto:sueschim@aol.com).

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Some of the remembrances we have received are below.

*I have wonderful memories of David (Dave) Schimmel, who was a member of my dissertation committee. He would listen quietly to remarks by George Urch (my chair) and Tom Clark (my defacto Co-Chair since George was on sabbatical while I was writing). Dave's comments added further clarity. He also shared comments, at times, about his Peace Corps experiences and those with then Massachusetts Senator Paul Tsongas. Such profound gestations (when they were young men) emerged into the Peace Corps that is continues decades later. **Beverly Lindsay***

*David brought a keen intelligence, a gracious style and an unbounded dedication to his to his many remarkable endeavors. I kept in touch with him over the years and will miss him. **Michael Haviland***

*Dave was the definition of class. Compassion, intellect, commitment, global citizen, leader, educator, dignity, all defined him. Along with hundreds of others, I am honored to have known him as a friend, a colleague and an inspiration. **Dave Magnani***

*David brought a keen intelligence, a gracious style and an unbounded dedication to his many remarkable endeavors. I kept in touch with him over the years and will miss him. I never knew his opinion but I always sensed he had one. It's that time of life when wonderful old memories flood back - for all the wrong reasons. **Bill Smith***

*He was a fine man. I remember evenings with him & Barbara – in his home & in ours as well as at larger CIE gatherings. His contributions make quite a legacy – what an honor to have known him. **Ginger Smith***

*David Schimmel brought community service learning to our campus. He will be missed but his work will continue to grow. **Dan Gerber***