



Homer L. Jernigan, a United Methodist minister, theological educator, psychologist, and long-time faculty member at Boston University, died of a stroke September 11th at his home in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Dr. Jernigan was born in Longmont, Colorado on March 6, 1922. He attended the University of Denver, where he was expelled by his fraternity for advocating racial integration, and was active in civil rights and community organizations. He maintained a deep love for the Colorado mountains throughout his life.

He graduated from Union Theological Seminary in New York City in 1946, and served churches in St. Albans and Amityville on Long Island. He was ordained as a Methodist minister and married Margaret Jane Belinfante in 1949. He

worked as a hospital chaplain in Chicago and in Staunton, Virginia, and received a PhD in psychology from Northwestern University in 1959.

In 1957, he joined the faculty of Boston University School of Theology, and in 1963, he was named to the Albert V. Danielsen Chair of Pastoral Care and Counseling. He remained on the faculty until 1991, and from 1963-1971 directed the Danielsen Institute. While on sabbatical in 1971-72, he served as the clinical director of a counseling center and taught at Trinity Theological College in Singapore. Upon his retirement in 1991, he and his wife returned to Singapore and taught at Trinity and also worked at Dунghai University in Taichung, Taiwan. Together they authored *Aging in Chinese Society: A Holistic Approach to the Experience of Aging in Taiwan and Singapore* (Routledge, 1992).

His work as an educator was distinguished by a passion for practical engagement and training for pastors. He was accredited as a supervisor in Clinical Pastoral Education in 1953, and was a founding member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. He pioneered in creating "teaching parishes," including opportunities for pastoral trainees to engage with and learn from the ways diverse racial and ethnic communities cope with the critical life events of marriage, death and bereavement. He authored numerous articles on pastoral care and counseling, and spirituality and aging.

In 2005, his wife died and in 2006, he moved to the Kendal retirement community in Hanover, New Hampshire where he discovered a second calling as a singer and continued his teaching and ministry focusing on empowerment of elders and stewardship of the environment. In 2009, he married Jeanne Nolte. He is survived by her as well as his daughters Daryl Jernigan Battin, Catherine Jernigan Wolinsky, Nan Jernigan Danforth, sons David and Christopher Jernigan, and six grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at Kendal in Hanover, NH at 2 p.m. on September 17, and at United Parish in Auburndale, MA at 2 p.m. on September 18. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Homer Jernigan Fellowship Fund, Boston University Development and Alumni Relations, 595 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 700, Boston, MA 02215.