

Friends of CONCORD Christian Academy

1st Edition / Issue 1

Mr. David Frost

Fall 2019

by Jonathan Bradford, Head of School



I recently had the opportunity to interview Donna Frost about her late husband David Frost, who was the first principal of Concord Christian Academy.

On February 24th, 1981, President Ronald Reagan, conducting a Medal of Honor Ceremony for Master Sergeant Benavidez, a retired soldier who was awarded his country's highest honor for his sacrifice and valiant efforts at Loc Ninh, Vietnam, asked the audience a reflective question, "Where did we find such men?" In reflection on the life and ministry of David Frost, we ask ourselves this same question.

There are those among us who are maintainers, who accept the baton of ministry and through their efforts provide direction and growth to what is already established; and then there are others who are initiators, who are able to translate vision and theory to actual practice and tangible results. David was the latter. As I, as well as thousands of others, have walked down the hallways of Concord Christian Academy, and have enjoyed the blessings of Christian fellowship with Concord's families and the fruit of a Christ-centered education, we cannot help but reflect upon the man who initiated it all, whose impactful vision for Christian education turned a fledgling ministry into a sustained one, bringing blessings to families for over 43 years.

David Frost was that visionary initiator, but his vision for Christian education did not begin with Concord. By the time Pastor Ted Lily (the first pastor of Concord Baptist Church) requested David and his wife Donna (his wife of 48 years) to be part of the Concord Baptist Church family and establish the school, David had already been involved in the birthing of two other Christian schools. The first school he helped establish was Fairwinds Christian School (Bear, DE) and the second school was Pike Creek Christian School (Newark, DE). Concord Christian Academy was the third one. He and his wife Donna joined Concord Baptist Church in 1975 and prepared for Concord's first school year, 1976. Together, along with their two daughters, they poured their hearts into the Christian school ministry, with David overseeing the school programs and finances, and Donna filling in wherever it was needed.

At Concord and afterwards, David was a servant-leader. He followed Christ's example in John 13 and got the towel dirty washing the feet of others. He also had the mind of Christ (Phil. 2) out of a love of having a heart for Christ, and he reflected the Apostle Paul's message to the Church in Corinth (II Cor.12:15), "I will very gladly spend and be spent for you."



One of those sacrificial moments fondly remembered by those who were associated with the school in those beginning years came when David, facing a financial crisis at the school, decided to forgo his own pay so that the teachers of the school would all be sufficiently compensated. Donna remembers that time: “The IRS put a note on our door (the school) and said they were going to close us down and David went and negotiated with them to keep our doors open. It was so bad financially that he wanted to make sure that his teachers got paid, that we did not take a paycheck. It caused some hardships – it caused us to have some bad credit because there were some things that we could not pay, but he wanted to make sure his teachers got paid.” David, a graduate of the University of Delaware in Accounting, was able to use his financial prowess and personal prayer to ameliorate the crisis and put everything back in motion again for the school and church. Altogether, David was principal of Concord for six years before the Lord moved his family to another ministry, and even though afterwards he was not heading a Christian school ministry, he supported it and continued his daughters’ education through it at another school. He truly believed in Christian education.

Sadly, David’s earthly penultimate came suddenly and unexpected. After leaving the Christian school ministry, David worked for a high-end auto body shop for more than twenty years. One of his responsibilities was to be a part runner for the shop and on July 15th, 2013, David, coming off an onramp in Upper Darby, PA, was hit by a distracted dump truck driver on his cell phone. The force of the impact from behind angled his car into oncoming traffic where he was hit a second time, leading to his death. One of the main reasons he was still delivering parts at the age of 70 was to pay for his granddaughters’ tuition at Concord.

HIS HONOR WAS NOT A MEDAL, IT WAS INSTEAD THE THANKFULNESS OF A GRATEFUL SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY, THOSE HE INFLUENCED AND CONTINUES TO INFLUENCE TO THIS DAY.

All of us dread getting the phone call or knock on our front door informing us a loved one has passed away. We dread it, but still we do not expect it. We have commonplace in our thinking that we will see our loved ones’ ends coming from afar,

so when we get unexpected and stunning news like Donna did, those next few moments reveal the true beliefs and values of our hearts. Donna recounted for me in my office exactly how those moments unfurled, “At 2:30 that afternoon, a State Trooper came to my front door and of course wanted to know if I knew David Frost. I said, ‘Yeah, but there are several of them.’ Now when we (first) moved up here, we were the only Frost in the phonebook. So he came on in and I said to him, ‘Well I do not know what I did, but if you are here I probably did it.’ He wasn’t laughing. He asked me if my husband went to Pennsylvania. I said, ‘Yes.’ He replied, ‘Your husband has been killed.’ You are so stunned you do not how to react. So I invited him to my table and we were talking and everything, and I got to talk to him about the Lord. I said, ‘I feel bad that your job is so dangerous,’ and I told him, ‘Did you ever think that you may not go home tonight or tomorrow? You might think about that God loves you. He loved my husband and I know that he is in Heaven.’” Donna shares the same love for Jesus and others like her husband did and took opportunity, even in the announcement of her husband’s death, to share the love of Christ. Seven days later David’s funeral was held at Lighthouse Baptist Church (Newark, DE) where David was Missions Director for 13 years. Because of the hope of Heaven, his last day on Earth was his first moment in Glory.





President Reagan followed his interrogative that day at the Pentagon by stating, “We find them where we’ve always found them, in our villages and towns, on our city streets, in our shops, and on our farms.” What Reagan was attempting to convey to the audience is that uncommon acts of valor can be exhibited by common people. In Christian ministry, heralded acts of duty and service emanate not too distant from those who faithfully serve the Lord – like David did. His honor was not a medal, it was instead the thankfulness of a grateful school and community, those he influenced and continues to influence to this day.

Much has changed since Mr. Frost was principal of the school. The color Birch Run now layers over the original orange and white paint that decorated the hallways, drywall has replaced wood paneling, carpet now runs the length of the hallways, the school programming has expanded and is now accredited, and the student body has grown in number. Though, even with all these additions, one element of those nascent Concord Christian Academy years I hope never changes is the love for God and others that indwelt in the school’s spirit. This is what David displayed continually.

Like Reagan, David Frost also had a message in 1981. Inscribed in the fifth yearbook of the school, he wrote these prescient words:

“As another year has been added to the annals of Concord Christian Academy, so have new adventures and new challenges. I rejoice at the achievements of our students in academic goals, athletic competition, and in spiritual growth over the past year. My daily prayer is that God will keep His hand upon Concord Baptist church and Concord Christian Academy, directing our endeavors to provide Christian education. I am confident, as we make plans for the next school term, that God has great things in store for us.”

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David S. Frost". The signature is fluid and cursive.

I do too, Mr. Frost. Because of your leadership, we all do.

Schedule a FREE
Educational Success Consultation

*Email info@concordchristian.com or
call 302.475.3247*
