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In Memoriam: Robert H. Smith

THE Thomas Jefferson Foundation lost a beloved friend and devoted supporter when Robert H. Smith died Dec. 29, 2009, in Winchester, Va., at age 81

One of our era's greatest patriots and most generous donors in support of American history, Bob Smith had an indelible impact on Monticello. His transformational gift to endow the International Center for Jefferson Studies, which now bears his name, significantly advanced the Foundation's research and educational programs around the world. But it was only one of the many ways in which he and his wife, Clarice, demonstrated their devotion to Jeffersonian principles and values.

The Smiths' most recent contribution—a leadership gift for the development of an education and conference

center on Montalto—was made shortly before Mr. Smith's death.

In a letter to the Foundation just weeks before he

died, Mr. Smith wrote: "As a grateful American, I am proud of the International Center for Jefferson Studies. A man who has forgotten to be thankful, has fallen asleep in the midst of life."

The trustees and staff of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation will never forget to be thankful for the vision, wisdom, and generosity of Robert H. Smith.



Robert H. Smith speaking at Monticello in April 2009. TJF/Stephanie Gross

COMMENTS?
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