When author M. Stanton “Stan” Evans died last month at age 80, Accuracy in Academia and the conservative movement lost an irreplaceable friend and mentor, as did many of us personally.

Those of us who have lost parents and grandparents got to experience a similar loss again. Yet and still, it is worth noting that no one really dies if he leaves behind good memories and a life that lessons can be learned from. Stan Evans left oceans of both.

We who had the privilege of working with him got to see what went into producing great copy, whether it was in columns, magazine articles or books. Stan never stopped editing himself, as editors and publishers who have worked with him will attest.

You really wanted to up your game when writing for Stan. When you got your pieces back from him with just a few word-changes, you high-fived yourself.

When my then 14-year-old stepson—Darryl—wrote a letter to the editor of Consumers’ Research magazine, which Stan published, he worked on it for three solid hours. When I pointed out to him that he didn’t spend three solid minutes on his homework, Darryl said, “Yes but Stan will see this.” (By the way, when I got married, Stan gave my wife away: Her own parents had died many years earlier. We listed him as guardian of the bride and the song we selected for the Father/Daughter dance was “Let’s twist again like we did last summer.” Stan said it was his favorite Twist song.)

Not that Stan was overbearing, anything but. “Okay” and “that’s fine” were his answers to just about every employee request. Indeed, most employers would have viewed some of these requests as outlandish:

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April 2015

Dear Reader,

M. Stanton Evans, the man of letters we pay tribute to in this issue, spoke annually at Accuracy in Academia events in the decade I’ve been at AIA. About one-third of those appearances were devoted to discussions of his seminal books, *Blacklisted By History: The Untold Story of Senator Joe McCarthy and His Fight Against America's Enemies*, and *Stalin's Secret Agents: The Subversion of Roosevelt's Government*.

Both of these are impeccably researched treatments of topics which are rarely, if ever, treated accurately, if they are dealt with at all, in academia. As these titles indicate, the American fight against communism, at home and abroad, was a consuming preoccupation with Evans’ during the 30 years I knew him.

This is a topic that concerns us at AIA as well. Accordingly, we are resolved to, as Evans urged, get the facts on it and, where necessary, and it usually is, set the record straight. Therefore, AIA plans on coming back to this topic, in meetings, articles and, we hope, a video course that students and even graduates who want to connect with U. S. history can watch and enjoy.

Finally, we are also putting together a book of the quips from and anecdotes about this brilliant and gifted writer who belied the frequent assertion that conservatism lacks wit and color. Nevertheless, with his passing, the conservative political movement and the world have lost a good deal of both of those qualities. We give you a brief sampling of some of his epigrams on page 7.

Yet and still, we can continue researching and writing about those issues that Evans became such an expert on, despite his protestations to the contrary. It will take the efforts of many to even come close to accomplishing what he did all by himself.

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director
• One employee wanted two days off to attend a Madonna concert (“one to go and one to recover”)

• Another employee wanted to go the Capital Center to watch the NBA draft picks (Stan was particularly proud of that one.)

• A request that always got an automatic yes: Can I bring my dog to the office? (see below)

Conversely, I know of no recorded instance of Stan ever taking a vacation. Truly, he led by example.

I told Dan Flynn, when he was researching an excellent tribute to Stan that ran on Breitbart.com, that when “Stan’s own dad died, Stan said his father’s life was marked by ‘unfailing dedication to principle and unfailing kindness to people.’”

“This I dare say fits Stan to a T.” And not just with people.

Only Stan would buy a three-legged dog. Once, I saw Zip, the canine in question, sitting in Stan’s apartment in her easy chair, a bowl of her beloved grapes beside her, watching Masterpiece Theater. I thought to myself, Zip lives more elegantly than her master does.
Towards the end of her life, Stan could not bring himself to put that dog to sleep. She died of natural causes.

In her final days, Stan would carry her, and she was not a small dog, down three flights of stairs from his apartment, then lay her gently on the mattress he had placed for her in the back of the van. At the other end of the trip, he would carry her up two flights of stairs to his office, where he placed her on a bed he had made for her.

He carried many of us a good deal longer than that. For example, he spoke, gratis, at Accuracy in Academia events every year in the decade I’ve been here.

A final memory, at least for this article: Once, while driving across Capitol Hill, which takes approximately 20 minutes, Stan, the ultimate Elvis fan, played his favorite song from the King, “Suspicious Minds,” five times. Now he can hear it in person because he’s where Elvis is in the building.

Hold that thought.
A recent decision by the UC Irvine Student Association (ASUCI) to ban the display of the American flag in the ASUCI lobby not only triggered campus outrage and national media attention, but inspired a strong comeback from school Chancellor Howard Gillman, who called the decision “misguided,” “outrageous and indefensible.” His reaction may have ended this episode if Nick Gallo, a UC Irvine PhD candidate in computer science hadn’t decided to weigh in on the incident. In a piece for The College Fix, Gallo suggested the epidemic of “misguided” students might have been caused by the constant drumbeat of administrators “suffocating” them with pleas to enhance “diversity and inclusivity” to the complete detriment of any effort to promote American values.

Gallo noted that although he was required to say how he would add to the school’s diversity when filling out his college application, there was nothing in the form that asked him how he would further the values of America. Meanwhile, Gallo pointed out that while school administrators were constantly promoting diversity and inclusivity, they also condemned “cultural insensitivity” by saying that UC Irvine joins with “our Muslim brothers and sisters” in the aftermath of the “senseless” UNC Chapel Hill murders of three Muslims and encouraged affected students to utilize the UCI Counseling Center. (There was no mention of the fact that this crime had nothing to do with the students’ being Muslim.)

However, on Jan. 7, when twelve cartoonists in Paris were publicly executed by ruthless Jihadists, there were no special counseling sessions or condolences for French students, there were no statements about “cultural insensitivity,” and school officials never mentioned anything about America’s cherished values of freedom of expression and how the nation was committed to securing these freedoms throughout the world.

Gallo noted that since there are entire offices dedicated to “diversity,” why not set one up to promote American values and a healthy understanding of our culture, especially among international students? Are UCI’s internal policies and statements on “inclusivity” themselves contradictory and misguided?

Not too long ago, fair-minded liberals would counter opposing views by saying that “I don’t agree with what he says, but I defend to the death his right to say it.” Today, when someone airs opinions on a controversial topic such as climate change, it could set the stage for a congressional investigation, according to The College Fix. Al Gore has even proposed that “climate change deniers” should be punished.

Pepperdine University Professor Steven Hayward is one of those who was recently targeted by “Arizona Rep. Raúl Grijalva, the top Democrat on the House...
A loophole discovered by David Vogt, a Republican member of the state assembly, provides the governor an opportunity to remove Maryland from the testing procedure. Apparently, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), created as an oversight entity, was “poorly developed, poorly managed, and crammed down the throats of the states,” explained Vogt, adding that the loophole grants the newly elected governor, Republican Larry Hogan, the authority to either recommit or remove Maryland from the PARCC exams, within the first five months of holding office.

Vogt is rallying a coalition of parents, educators, and administrators to pressure Hogan to pull the state out of PARCC. “[PARCC’s] not only unconstitutional, but it’s a hindrance to the education system of Maryland,” Vogt said. “Education was built to be a state-managed and operated function and the governor exercising his authority here will put it back in the state of Maryland’s hands.”

Without the PARCC exams, teachers would still be required to follow the Common Core curriculum.

Critics say the exams are too rigorous and detract from local and state control of the classroom. They also argue that states were incentivized by the Obama administration to adopt Common Core and its affiliated exams with $4.35 billion in Race to the Top grants and waivers from the No Child Left Behind law.

Maryland received a four-year, $250 million federal grant for fully implementing the standards by the 2014-2015 academic year.

State lawmakers formally challenged Common Core last month when they consider a number of proposals that intend to slow down or halt the process of implementing the standards.

A spokeswoman for Governor Hogan told The Daily Signal that the governor is still deciding what to do about the PARCC tests. “The governor has major concerns about ‘one-size fits-all’ standards like Common Core...”
and PARCC, and he will be exploring ways to improve or remove them during his term,” Erin Montgomery, the spokeswoman, said.

MICHIGAN MICROAGGRESSION MADNESS

The atmosphere on campus at the U. of Michigan these days is heavy on micro-aggression, combined with sensitivity sessions to learn about white privilege, all of which gave birth to the Inclusive Language Campaign, according to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette. Things have gotten so serious that freshman Suzy Lee Weiss observed that she and her friends believe they’ve all been “drafted as thought police, charged with regulating the speech of our peers.”

It’s not just the signs saying “Stop” and “Think” all around campus – and having to sign an Inclusive Language pledge. It sounds like a joke, but it’s deadly serious, noted Weiss.

She explained that she is considered “hostile for offering a cupcake to a diabetic without knowing of his condition, racist for suggesting we “work the kinks out” on a group project and “generally insensitive for having an opinion on any subject that I have not directly experienced.”

In one of the mandatory sessions she attended for freshman students last fall, Weiss was warned that even wishing someone a Merry Christmas was out of bounds, under Inclusive Language Campaign Rules.

However, Weiss remains undeterred in her commitment to rationally address these issues. “Instead of pitting student groups against each other in a painful game of out-oppression — who’s had it worse, the black students or the transgender students? — wouldn’t it be better to drop the -isms and learn to simply be good to each other?”

“I propose a new initiative, one that I’m confident will outlast previous bulletin-board, bake-sale and social-media campaigns. Call it ‘The Golden Rule.’ Or being a mensch. Or maybe just using your head. It’s a classic.”

“College students readying themselves for the real world have to learn that some people are bigots, that some people will hurt their feelings inadvertently and that understanding doesn’t come from bureaucratic student-life committees or advisory boards led by self-righteous RAs. It comes from environments where opinions are valued beyond their adherence to a so-called progressive agenda.”

Weiss concluded by saying she would call it the “Don’t Be an Idiot Campaign” — if only that word were still allowed.

M. Stanton Evans: Always quotable

“Liberals don’t care what you do as long as it’s compulsory”

“Gridlock is the next best thing to having a Constitution.”

“The process of standing for something begins with getting up off your knees.”

“Evans law of inadequate paranoia: no matter how bad you think things are, when you look into them, you find that they’re a lot worse.”

“Too many people come to Washington thinking it’s a cesspool and wind up thinking it’s a hot tub.”

“I’m a conservative journalist, which is an oxymoron, like jumbo shrimp, rap music and, my current favorite, Senate Ethics Committee.”

“Everybody should start out as conservatives when they are young and then, as they get older, become more conservative.”

“I always start every morning with black coffee and cigarettes because breakfast is the most important meal of the day.”
To show what college and university English Departments are really teaching, Accuracy in Academia compiled *The REAL MLA Stylebook*, filled with quotes from a recent convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) where thousands of English professors gather to push their politically correct, radical agenda. Outsiders who attend this event expecting to learn more about Chaucer, Milton and Shakespeare are in for a rude awakening when they discover that panels are more likely to focus on topics such as “Marxism and Globalization;” “What’s the Matter with Whiteness,” and “Queering Faulkner.”

This book is must-reading for anyone interested in learning more about the mindset of faculty members who are tasked with teaching the great works of the English language to our nation’s students.

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You can order your copy of *The REAL MLA Stylebook* using the coupon below or order online at the AIM store: www.ShopAIM.org

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