



President Emeritus

**Ronald R. Thomas**

1949 - 2023

**Memorial Service**

June 24, 2023, 2 p.m.

Tahoma Room, Thomas Hall

University of Puget Sound

## Program

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Welcome	Isiaah Crawford University of Puget Sound President
Invocation	Michael Segawa
Reflections from Ron's Family	Stephen Beltle
Reflections from University of Puget Sound Board Chairs	Deanna Oppenheimer Rick Brooks
A Reading from Scripture, I Corinthians 13:1-8	Stephen Beltle
"Because I Am" (lyrics by Ron Thomas)	introduced by Shelly Reiss
Reflections from University of Puget Sound Faculty	Michael Veseth
Greetings from University of Puget Sound Staff	Fred Grimm
Poetry Reading from T. S. Eliot's "Little Gidding"	Mark Halliday
Reflections from a University of Puget Sound Graduate	Darrel Frost '04
Reflections from a Friend	Robert Pohlard P'07
Photo Montage	introduced by Michael Reiss
"When the Deal Goes Down" (Bob Dylan)	
"Every Grain of Sand" (Bob Dylan)	
"Forever Young" (Bob Dylan) sung by Jess Smith '05, Associate Professor of Theatre Arts, accompanied by Darrel Frost '04	

*Reception following on the Event Lawn, Thomas Hall.*

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### **A Note from Mary Thomas**

As some of you might remember, Ron quoted from Tennyson's *Ulysses* at his inauguration in 2004 and again at his retirement in 2016. It is a poem about life's journeys, its triumphs and travails, and its yearnings. And it is a particular line in *Ulysses* that I recall when I read your kind and thoughtful messages at Ron's passing: "I am a part of all that I have met." So many of you have described the deep and abiding effect he had upon you. And now that he is gone, I find comfort in believing that he is indeed still with us.

To those who have helped to plan and bring to fruition Ron's memorial, my thanks:  
Michael and Shelly Reiss, my indispensable partners in every aspect of this service

Darrel Frost '04, who coordinated  
and performed the program music

The University of Puget Sound: Office of the President,  
Dining and Event Services, Facilities Services,  
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and University Relations