



CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LOVE OF  
*Dr. Raymond G. Hebert*

February 7, 1942 - June 23, 2026

Dr. Raymond G. Hebert, 84, of Edgewood, Kentucky passed away, after multiple long illnesses, on June 23, 2026 at St. Elizabeth Medical Healthcare in Edgewood, Kentucky.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend and a thoughtful, efficient and passionate teacher and scholar. Ray was born in Rochester, NH on February 7, 1942, the first boy in what was a new hospital in that city. His parents, Joseph and Isabelle, preceded him in death, along with his sister, Joyce. He married the love of his life, Maureen on December 30th, 1972 at the United Nations in NYC. They were married for almost 54 years. In addition to his beloved wife he is survived by his two daughters, Michele "Miki" Beier, and Danielle Hubbard and grandchildren: Kyle, Lauren, and Samantha Beier and Olivia and Joseph Hubbard.

Ray had a BA degree from St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH with fields in History and French; an MA in European History from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, and a PhD from the University of Maryland, College Park with fields in Early Modern European History, Tudor Stuart England and Irish History (1975). He taught history at the College/University level for almost 60 years with 50 of those at Thomas More College/University where he also held multiple administrative positions including Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College (1987–2001), Director of the James Graham Brown Honors Program (2001–2009) and Executive Director of the Institute for Religious Liberty (2016–2026). He also served as the General Editor of the Centennial History of Villa Madonna College/Thomas More College/Thomas More University 1921–2021. During his Thomas More years he was also heavily involved in Study Abroad – serving as a faculty member or director for close to 30 programs with the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad (CCSA) including 19 trips to Ireland with students or faculty and, on one special occasion, for alumni community and family in 2015 in a self-guided tour of the entire island.

Locally Ray was a member of the Covington Rotary Club for close to 50 years with a Presidency in 1984–1985 and the Covington Latin School Board of Directors for 25 years.





There were many other boards and causes he supported over the years, including the Kenton County Historical Society, Behringer Crawford Museum, Be Concerned, the Parish Kitchen, Point Arc and Esperanza. He was also one of the founders and original Board members of the Council of Partners in Education that later became the Northern Kentucky Education Council. Service to others was one of the hallmarks of Ray's life along with his commitment to his family. One of his greatest pleasures, for example, was coaching first his daughters and later two of his grandchildren in basketball or baseball.



Ray's hard work and commitment to his institution and his community were recognized on many occasions, beginning with two teaching awards as the Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Member of the Year at Thomas More, one earlier in his career (1977) and one later in his career (2014). In addition, the Alumni Association presented him, soon afterwards, with a "Lifetime Achievement Award," and in

2018, the TMU Academic Affairs Division created a legacy award named in his honor and he was designated the inaugural recipient of the "Dr. Ray Hebert Faculty Service Award." Early in his career he was a Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce "Albright Award" recipient for teaching in Northern Kentucky (1979) and he was recognized on numerous occasions by the Northern Kentucky Education Council, culminating with its "Lifetime Achievement" Award. While on the Covington Latin School Board of Directors, in 2008 he was made an "Honorary Alumnus."

In 2016, he was the recipient of the Behringer Crawford Museum's "Two-Headed Calf" Award for education contributions to Northern Kentucky. In 2019, the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, as part of a 40th Anniversary Celebration of its Northern Kentucky Leadership Program, included Dr. Hebert as one of its "Leaders of Distinction." In 2021, the Kenton County Ethics Commission selected him as one of the recipients of the Kenton County Fiscal Court's "Pioneer Award" for "outstanding service to the community while exemplifying the highest standards of personal integrity." Appropriately, as a capstone, it honored him for his "demonstration of servant leadership combined with the awareness of the needs of the fellow residents of Kenton County." He was awarded the Thomas More College Service Alumni Award



in May of 2021 and in 2023, an award was created in his honor which is presented each year at the Bishop Hughes Awards Dinner. In 2024 he was inducted into the Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame for his contributions in coaching. In November 2025 he was recognized for his 47 years of service to the Covington Rotary Club. In 2026 he was recognized by the IRL (Institute for Religious Liberties) for his commitment for service.

Harkening back, Ray was most proud of the completion of his book, *Florence Nightingale: Saint, Reformer or Rebel?* (1982) produced for use in his pioneering History of Nursing Classes in the late 1970s and early 1980s and the recognition he received in his hometown of Rochester, NH where he was named to its Sports Hall of Fame (2001), in recognition of his athletic success there as an All-State Basketball and Baseball player while at Holy Rosary High School. He also wrote two books on the history of Thomas More. In 2023 he contributed to the book "Thomas More University at 100" and In 2024 he wrote "Student-Athletes & Athletic Programs at Thomas More University".

Ray was in many ways, like his institution's patron, a Renaissance man. He loved his family above all else and his friends/colleagues after that. He followed his

New England professional sports teams (Red Sox/Celtics/Patriots) but also rooted for the Bengals, Reds, and Notre Dame Irish. He loved Cincinnati's cultural treasures and especially the theatre venues. He traveled, read widely, laughed whenever he could, loved good food and wine and taught his children and grandchildren to always treat others the way they wanted to be treated. He was, above all, a "good man" who cared deeply. He was a great husband, father, and grandfather first and all else followed from there.

