

Walter "Ted" Truslow Jr., 83, died Friday, August 22, 2003, in Vernon, VT. As the Miami Valley School's inaugural headmaster, Truslow will be fondly remembered and deeply missed by the MVS community.

After completing his education at the Kent School and Columbia University, Truslow, a native of Brooklyn, NY, served as a U.S. Navy aviator in World War II. Truslow then began his career in independent schools in 1955 at the Lake Forest Academy in Lake Forest, IL.

In 1964, Truslow came to the Miami Valley School in Kettering, Ohio. From 1964-66 he spearheaded the construction of the Denise Drive campus, where the school is housed today. He also led an effort to departmentalize the K-8 program, laying a strong academic groundwork for the school's first graduating class in 1974.

"Ted Truslow really built the lower school program," said Headmaster Tom Brereton. "The school's excellence in academics - and excellence in all kinds of ways - is directly related to Ted's founding efforts."

During his time at Miami Valley, Truslow exhibited his passion and talent for music by helping with school productions, which included a starring role in the 1971 performance of "South Pacific."

Truslow's wife Virginia, "Ginny," taught courses in home economics and art at Miami Valley, and his children, James, "Jim," and Josephine attended the school.

In a letter written to the school upon its 25th anniversary in 1989, Truslow said, "My association with the beginning eight years of the Miami Valley School mark the most rewarding period of my professional life."

Truslow left Miami Valley in 1972 to head the Park School in Buffalo, NY, but his communication with faculty and staff and his attendance at MVS reunions was a testament to his fondness for the school. He ended his career at the Vermont Academy in Saxons River.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be sent to the Vermont Academy of Saxons River or the Miami Valley School of Dayton, Ohio.



The four headmasters in the school's history

*Ted Truslow (seated)
Duncan Alling, Tom Brereton, and Robert
Fatherly*