

And One Fine Morning

Memories of My Father



Nick Hayes

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“I had a girlfriend in college who said I had more of a father in my dead one than she had in her living one. She said I should write a book about him. This is it.”

– from *And One Fine Morning*

At the heart of *And One Fine Morning* lies the story of the heart attack, failed recovery, and death of Mark Hayes, the author’s father, in the mid-1950s, when he was at the height of his career as one

of Minnesota’s most successful modernist architects. It is also a story of the “Minnesota Irish” who emigrated from Ireland during the Great Hunger, with the author’s family among them; of the family’s pioneer days on the North Dakota prairie, and the vibrant life of the Irish-American community they became a part of and helped to sustain on Minneapolis’s North Side in the early decades of twentieth century. In a voice that is whimsical, comical, ironic, and, at times, heart-rending, the author brings the idiosyncratic life of the city’s old Catholic and Irish American community to life, drawing on personal research and a wealth of family anecdotes. He goes on to describe the post-war life of the Hayes family following a move to a newly-built home in the southwest corner of Minneapolis, and conveys the extraordinary pain of his father’s death in 1956, when he was only eight.

NICK HAYES IS A PROFESSOR, writer and commentator for the media. A frequent guest on television and radio, he has also published widely in newspapers, magazines and journals. He has been the recipient of awards and grants from the Ford Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Fulbright Program and received an Emmy in 1991 for his work on TPT’s *Television and Democracy in Russia*. Today, he is a professor of history and holds the university chair in critical thinking at Saint John’s University in Minnesota and is a contributing writer to *www. MinnPost.com*.



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530 N. Third Street, Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Contact Norton Stillman (612) 333-6300 / Fax (612) 333-6303