

<far right> **BRIAN MORGAN,**
DIRECTOR OF THE PUTNEY
SCHOOL 1995-2007. <right>
JOYCE VINING MORGAN,
COLLEGE COUNSELOR FOR
THE PUTNEY SCHOOL
1996-2007 <below> **BRIAN,**
CHEERFULLY NO LESS,
TAKES ONE FOR THE TEAM
AT HARVEST FESTIVAL.



Tribute:

A Fond Farewell to the Morgans

“He shepherded the growth of developing the program in a way that attracted more students. He shepherded a whole fundraising and planning campaign so that we could build a dorm to house more students. And then he really spearheaded and led the effort to raise the funds and to develop and actually construct the Currier Center to showcase the talents of the students and the faculty... When the Currier Center is full, you can see that as a microcosm of Brian’s accomplishments.”

—ELIZABETH EISOLD BLAYLOCK '80,
PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR 2002-2007



In anticipation of their departure, a short film entitled “Tribute” was commissioned last spring to commemorate Brian and Joyce Vining Morgan’s contributions to The Putney School and to our community here on the hill. Video Filmmaking Teacher Beckie Coffey P’07 (former Vermont Public Radio commentator and perpetual journalist) and Photography Teacher Jason Whiton ’83 (award-winning filmmaker and screenwriter) did a heart-warming job of rounding up faculty, former students and board members to share stories that are interspersed with historic footage of Putney from the 1940s and ’60s. The movie was a surprise unveiled at a gathering in their honor (which Joyce, sadly, could not attend because of a death in the family) at the New York house of former Board Chair Sarah Gray Gund ’60 (see photos in Gatherings, pg. 39). We plan to have the technical hurdles of posting the film on our website (www.putneyschool.org) surmounted by the time you’re reading this. For the nuts and bolts enumeration of the Morgan’s contributions to the school, see the inside front cover ad for the Morgan Fund. For images and memories of the Morgans, please read on.

<top> **BRIAN AND JOYCE REVEAL A BIT OF THEIR ALTER EGOS AT THE HALLOWEEN DANCE.** <above> **SHARPIE IN HAND, JOYCE WASTES NO TIME IN ENGAGING THIS YOUNG MAN IN PONDERING HIS COLLEGE FUTURE AT THE RETURNING STUDENTS PICNIC AT ROCKWELL HOUSE ONE LATE AUGUST DAY.**



<one> **THE MOST SATISFYING PART OF THE JOB: BRIAN CONFERS A CERTIFICATE UPON A GERMAN ASSIST STUDENT AT THE 2006 GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

<two> **IN FULL KAZAKH REGALIA, BRIAN WELCOMES ONE OF THE MANY KAZAKHSTAN EXCHANGE GROUPS WE ENJOYED OVER THE MORGANS' TENURE HERE.**

<three> **ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER KAZAKHSTAN EXCHANGE, BUT BY THIS TIME WE WERE ASSEMBLING IN CALDER HALL, THE MICHAEL S. CURRIER CENTER.**

<four> **THE MORGANS ON ONE OF THEIR MANY TRIPS TO ASIA TO SPREAD WORD OF THE PUTNEY SCHOOL AND SUPPORT THOSE FAMILIES WHO SEND THEIR CHILDREN SO FAR AFIELD IN SEARCH OF EDUCATION.**

“Though Brian Morgan became director many years after I left Putney, I must say that among all the faculty, personnel, directors and trustees I’ve met in the 36 years since I graduated, no one has impressed me more. I am not a wealthy guy, and thus getting me to part with my money, no matter the cause, is not so easy. Though my contributions thus far to Putney have been on the modest side of modest, to put it mildly—books, recordings, subscriptions, etc.—it was only thanks to Brian that I finally did, some years back, make a small cash contribution of \$1,000. I know that must seem awfully stingy, but actually it was a lot of money for me at the time. The reason I did was due entirely to Brian’s largesse, generosity of spirit, charm, breeding, exquisite manners, and not least, his kindness—all of which he has shown me in abundance. His thoughtfulness, support and consideration on those few occasions I visited Putney was proof enough of what a remarkable guy he is, and I will never forget it.”

—JOHN BELL YOUNG '71

“He knows more about education than practically anyone I’ve ever met.”

—ELIZABETH EISOLD BLAYLOCK '80,
PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR 2002–2007

“Brian is beloved by the alumni. Makes friends with groups of people in astonishing ways. I don’t know a single alum who doesn’t think highly of him and where Putney has gone.”

—HARRIET STUPP ROGERS '49,
PUTNEY ALUMNI DIRECTOR

“It would be hard to imagine a more committed person for this job—college counselling.”

—GLENN LITTLEDALE '76,
PUTNEY SCIENCE CHAIR

“As adults, we don’t realize that there’s a whole generation of kids who have grown up with Brian as the KDU Santa. I don’t think it was something he was particularly looking to do, but it kind of needed to be done. It was important and it was for kids. And Brian loves kids.”

—LORNE JOHNSON,
PUTNEY HISTORY TEACHER

“Joyce has brought several people from Kazakhstan, who’ve been here for several weeks, usually, and they’ve learned to weave. And it was really fun to have them in this environment.”

—MELISSA LUMLEY '77,
PUTNEY FIBER ARTS TEACHER

“They never seemed to shrink from including people in their lives.”

—SARAH GRAY GUND '60,
PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR 1995–2002

“I can’t speak enough about Brian’s dedication to the school.”

—VASYA DOSTOINOV '97



“He does like to know that the students are engaged. He has been known to come on Christmas morning to shovel the gutters, which is always a shot in the arm for the whole barn crew that’s here during vacation.”

—PETE STICKNEY,
ELM LEA FARM MANAGER

“I think they themselves were very heart-broken.... They were a huge anchor for me.... They were almost like my second parents while at school and close family friends after the fact, too.

—VASYA DOSTOINOV '97,
REFLECTING ON THE ILLNESS AND DEATH
OF HIS FATHER AS A RESULT OF THE
CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR PLANT DISASTER

“We took a group of kids to a trustees meeting in Los Angeles.... Watching them move a dozen kids through LAX and through Los Angeles in general.... They did it effortlessly and seamlessly and selflessly and kept everything moving with no stress, no fuss, no muss—and it was a sight to behold. They made it look very easy. I knew then that these people had been moving kids for a long time and I was in the presence of true professionals.”

—PETE STICKNEY,
ELM LEA FARM MANAGER



“I didn’t get to know her for quite a while. At first she hung in the background and played host to the alums. After at least a year she became college counselor. I was so amazed by how hard she works...trying to get those kids into school.”

—HARRIET STUPP ROGERS '49,
PUTNEY ALUMNI DIRECTOR

“He loves to drive a bus.”

—SARAH GRAY GUND '60,
PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR 1995–2002

“It was a very early morning in late May. The phone rang. I hear, “Good morning. Brian Morgan. May I speak with Inés?” He was looking for a music person. I had not applied for the job. Via his contacts with Exeter they knew I was looking. “Are you interested in applying?... Can you come tomorrow?” I flew over, interviewed the next day—one of those long, exhausting days. I stayed with Brian and Joyce overnight. At the end of the interview he said, “Do you want the job?” He gave me 24 hours. I accepted the job.”

—INÉS GÓMEZ-OCHOA,
PUTNEY MUSIC DIRECTOR

“She brought college counseling into prominence and gained prominence for herself nationally. She was willing to look at a huge variety of institutions and not get stuck in the Ivies. She was very sensitive to other kinds of institutions and their virtues.”

—SARAH GRAY GUND '60,
PUTNEY BOARD CHAIR 1995–2002

<five> ONE OF THE THREE WORLD QUEST TEAMS OF SCHOLARS THAT BRIAN COACHED TO QUALIFYING FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION (BY WINNING THE VERMONT CONTEST) IN WASHINGTON, DC.
<six> BRIAN CONGRATULATES TWO KINGDOM AWARD-WINNING STUDENT WRITERS WHEN ASSEMBLY AND SING WERE BOTH STILL HELD IN BARNES ASSEMBLY HALL, WHICH IS ONCE AGAIN THE DRAMA CLASSROOM. <seven> WAS THIS IN THE JOB DESCRIPTION? BRIAN AND FORMER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JUDY SHERIDAN PREPARE TO CARVE THE PUTNEY-RAISED THANKSGIVING TURKEYS. <eight> OUR EIGHTH DIRECTOR TREATING OUR TRUSTEES TO A FINE WINTER REPAST AT THE KDU DURING A WINTER BOARD MEETING WEEKEND. <nine> BRIAN AND FORMER BOARD CHAIR ELIZABETH EISOLD BLAYLOCK '80 LOOKING PRETTY HAPPY THAT GRADUATION IS HERE AT LAST.