Mission Accomplished, Yet Again

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

North Carolina is so rich in literary talent that even after almost thirty years I am still discovering not only new (and newish) writers – like those reviewed in this section – but also writers with both long lists of published books and strong reputations as professors and/or mentors. Yet somehow I never encountered someone like Kevin McIlvoy in my literary travels. Read about McIlvoy in Marjorie Hudson's retrospective on his work and his life. I am sorry not to have known "Mc," as he was called by his friends. I appreciate Marjorie for bringing his work to our readers' attention in an essay that began as a review of his latest book, then became a kind of overview of his oeuvre and a eulogy. Mc clearly manifested the communal spirit I've long noted among North Carolina writers who are much more supportive of than competitive with each other.

The NCLR editors welcome such essays. If we've not published the writer before, use the North Carolina Miscellany portal on our Submittable page to submit an essay on or interview with such writers. If the writer has previously appeared in our pages or the writer's work fits into one of our back issues' themes, use the Flashbacks portal. Such essays (and interviews) are key to our mission (which bears repeating) to preserve and promote the state's rich literary history.

Speaking of writers we've not previously published, read in these last pages of the issue reviews of a few more books by authors new to *NCLR*. Also here is a review of two-time Betts Fiction Prize winner Thomas Wolf, his book paired with a writer we have not previously published. Both books are sportsbased, which got me to thinking that sports in literature might be an interesting feature topic some time. If that (or some other feature topic) is of interest to someone with editorial curating experience, please reach out to me with your feature section ideas.

And if you wish to volunteer to write a review for us, find information to do so <u>here</u>. ■

NORTH CAROLINA

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