

HONOREE

Walter McDougall

CLASS OF 1964



Walter A. McDougall won the Pulitzer Prize for history in 1986 and is a legendary undergraduate teacher at the University of Pennsylvania. He was born in 1946 in Washington, D.C., and grew up the third of four sons in Wilmette.

At New Trier, he was overshadowed by his older brothers but was an avid participant in intramural sports and the Latin club. He then followed his brothers to Amherst College (BA 1968), where he specialized in history, German and music theory. After service in the U.S. Army, including combat in the Vietnam War, he became an historian (as much by accident as design) and was privileged to study under the great world historian William H. McNeill at the University of Chicago (PhD 1974). He taught at the University of California, Berkeley, before becoming Alloy-Ansin Professor of International Relations at Penn in 1988.

McDougall is also Director of Research at Philadelphia's Foreign Policy Research Institute, has edited its journal *Orbis*, and oversees its Wachman History Institute for secondary school teachers. An unabashed generalist, his many books include "France's Rhineland Diplomacy 1914-1924" (1978), "The Heavens and the Earth: A Political History of the Space Age" (1985), "Let the Sea Make a Noise: A History of the North Pacific" (1992), "Promised Land, Crusader State: The American Encounter with the World Since 1776" (1997), "Freedom Just Around the Corner: A New American History 1585-1828" (2004), "Throes of Democracy: The American Civil War Era 1829-1877" (2008), and "The Tragedy of U.S. Diplomacy: How American Civil Religion Betrayed the National Interest" (2016).

McDougall is still an avid Chicago sports fan and an aficionado of all sorts of books and music from Bach to Bob Dylan. He and his "Wonder Wife" Jonna have raised two children and reside in Bryn Mawr, Penn.

