

HE WAS AN ARTIST

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An Accomplished Daughter

course no one appreciates Nagy's importance more than Polly Nagy Seymour a beloved Winter Parker and wife of the late Thaddeus Seymour president of Rollins College from 1968 to 1974. The eminent educator and a community giant both literally and figuratively died in 1998. But Polly remains sharp funny and engaged.

I felt as though I knew my father well but of course I mainly knew him as a father she says. His great days were when he was at the top of his health his energy and his talent he was completely committed to his television show and his vision. I was busy with my own life and I didn't always understand that at the time.

Being the wife of one high profile man and the daughter of another Polly has nonetheless built quite a legacy of her own. When the Seymours arrived at Rollins she quietly went to work sprucing up the threadbare campus and making it a more welcoming place for visitors and students alike.







A Television Pioneer



A Lasting Legacy

nagy's legacy has continued through those who've had successful even legendary careers in art as well as through hobbyists who draw and paint only or relation.

The drawing kits don't sell as well as they used to but Polly says she still hears from fans. I get emails a couple of times a year from people who remember my father and credit him with encouraging them to make art she says.

And she's still learning new things about her father. The Province biography for instance included some of the illustrations nagy did for his high school yearbook in Hutchinson. I had never seen them before she says. They're very good.

nagy inspired future artists as diverse as Andy Warhol and Orlando Sentinel cartoonist Jake Rest. Warhol once declared that nagy taught me to draw. I watched his show every Saturday morning and I bought all his books. Rest now a teacher in Lake County says nagy is the reason I'm drawing trucks instead of driving them. I didn't know I could draw until he told me I could.

Two California artists like Bennett and Henry Miller credit nagy's influence on their careers and contributed chapters to Province book. Bennett in fact painted the cover in nagy's style.

JON GNAGY AMERICA'S ART TEACHER



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