Benjamin Rifkin, Hofstra University

I met Jim Bailey when I joined the faculty of the Slavic Department at UW-Madison in 1990. He will be remembered broadly for his enormous contributions to the field, both in the areas of scholarship and service, but I want to be sure that he is remembered also for the twinkle in his eyes, his smile and laughter, his kindness to everyone he met, his extraordinary generosity of spirit, his devotion to his students both undergraduate and graduate, and his mentorship of junior scholars. Well after his retirement, until I moved away from Madison, it was my honor and privilege to enjoy his friendship, support, and kindness. An inspiring human being, teacher, and scholar, Jim leaves us an extraordinary legacy of scholarship and service that will benefit students and scholars for generations. May his memory also inspire us to always be kind to and generous with one another.