

Student and Professor Reunite after 34 years

In 1982, a capable, but very despondent student, Cory Schulman, was floundering at Montgomery College. His grades were slipping along with hope of a productive future, which seemed unknowable at the sensitive age of 19. One of his professors at the time, Dr. Donald Palmer, offered his time and counseled Schulman through his issues of depression, attention deficit deficiency, poor study habits, and his unrealized romantic focus on a female student who didn't reciprocate his feelings.

Dr. Palmer put his education to practice by offering a receptive ear and reassuring voice to Mr. Schulman's young adult angst and learning disability. By the end of the semester in 1982, Mr. Schulman passed his classes and dealt with the pressures of college. He transferred to a four-year college where he graduated with a B.A degree in psychology.

Fast forward 34 years later to 2016. Mr. Schulman had not only overcome his learning disability and bouts with depression, but established himself in a career in writing and book publishing. He currently has authored and published three books through his company Bestsellerpublications.com.

At some point in 2016, Mr. Schulman reflected on his path to becoming a published author and thought about all of the great professors who helped him become who he is. His only regret was that he never thanked any of them. He knew one of his former literature professors, Monty Pitner, died many years ago. Thirty four years had passed, Schulman thought, it's unlikely any of his former professors would even be alive at this point. Schulman himself was 53 years old. But the impulse took hold and he entered Dr. Palmer's name into the Montgomery College website on a whim. To his amazement not only was Dr. Palmer alive and well, he was still teaching psychology after 46 years at Montgomery College. The least he could do, he thought, is send him a note thanking Dr. Palmer for

giving him the care that got him through a difficult time so long ago.

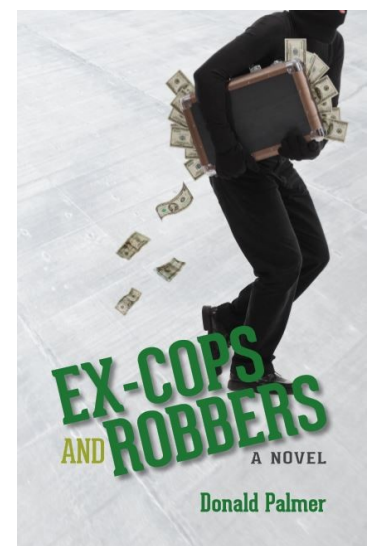
Dr. Palmer, who admits to "never" checking his inbox for physical mail, decided to check one day and found a note from his former student of 34 years ago. Despite the thousands of students Dr. Palmer has taught in his classes, Mr. Schulman was one he remembered vividly. The professor was tickled to receive such a heart-felt note of appreciation, a connection that every teacher aspires to. But so few students take the time to reflect back.

In addition to thanking his former professor, Mr. Schulman gave an update on his life, explaining how he became a professional writer, author, and book publisher. This revelation was surreal to Dr. Palmer, who had coincidentally written an off-beat novel that had been sitting in a drawer waiting for an opportunity to see the light of day.

It wasn't long before the former student and professor exchanged sentiments that evolved into a curiosity for each other's talents. Mr. Schulman read Dr. Palmer's manuscript and was bowled over by the sharp wit and unforgettable caste of characters in the book. Mr. Schulman was so impressed by his former professor's effort that he offered to publish it.

Fast forward a year of close collaboration: Dr. Palmer's hysterically funny novel, *Ex-Cops And Robbers*, has come out in print and is available for sale.

After a 34-year hiatus, the former student and his professor cherish not only the good old days, but are now making new memories as collaborators and colleagues.



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