

In memoriam

**Keith Hitchins (1931-2020):
Trailblazer, Ambassador, and
Elder Statesman of Romanian Studies**

(Abstract)

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Keywords: Keith Hitchins, Pompiliu Teodor, Andreiu Şaguna, Romanian Studies, Transylvania, Romanian history, historiography, Romanian national movement, South-eastern Europe, Habsburg Monarchy, Orthodox History, modernization, Fulbright Program, University of Illinois.

The paper is an homage to the life and work of Prof. Keith Hitchins, pioneering American scholar, who was the first American grantee to study in Cold War Romania, 1960-1961. It reviews his illustrious academic career, surveys his outstanding contributions to Romanian studies and the Society for Romanian Studies, and evaluates his large impact on Romanian-American academic relations. Finally, it passes in review Prof. Hitchins' pathbreaking work on the Romanian national movement in Transylvania, on Romanian history as a whole, and on Romanian historiography.

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