



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Title: TAP Responds to Founder Cabell Brand's Death

Roanoke, Va., January 14, 2015

We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of Cabell Brand, TAP's founder and our mentor and friend.

Cabell was a force of nature, a man of prodigious talents with deeply held convictions about the interconnectedness of humanity and what it means to work in service to an idea greater than yourself. He was passionate, curious, intellectually rigorous, compassionate, and tough, a steady hand and guiding light for TAP during his thirty years as its board chair. Even after his decision to step down as chair, he remained committed to the agency and interested and engaged in its activities—it wasn't uncommon for us to receive a phone call from him with an invitation to breakfast or lunch to discuss an idea, innovation, or issue he believed we should explore. A successful businessman who was a role model for community involvement, he never hesitated to use his influence to connect disenfranchised populations to the business community, or local, state and federal officials. His advocacy on behalf of the poor and those disenfranchised due to limited education or skills, lack of healthcare, unsanitary water and an unhealthy environment enabled hundreds of thousands across the state to achieve a higher quality of life.

There is no doubt that the Roanoke Valley and the Commonwealth have lost one of their lions, a witness to history that included some of the most tumultuous and defining times in our nation's recent history. In his own inimitable way, Cabell helped to shape the landscape and history of our portion of southwest Virginia over the last fifty years. While we mourn Cabell's loss, we celebrate his life, his legacy, and the lessons he taught us. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family and thank them for allowing him to spend his time and energy sharing his wisdom and vision with the community.

Steve Cronemeyer, TAP Board Chair
Annette Lewis, TAP Interim President
Ted Edlich, retiring TAP President & CEO

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