

## VITA FOR ROBERT B. PIERCE

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Born November 19, 1934  
Married to Barbara Pierce  
Children Steven, Anne, Margaret

### EDUCATION

A.B., Allegheny College, 1956  
A.M., Harvard University, 1957  
Ph.D., Harvard University, 1964

### HONORS AND AWARDS

Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa (junior), valedictorian at Allegheny; Danforth Fellowship for graduate study; University and Dexter Fellowships at Harvard; National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1970-71; Ruth Garwood Sighted Person of the Year Award, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, 1997

### TEACHING POSITIONS

U.S.A.F. Academy, Instructor, Assistant Professor of English, 1957-60  
Oberlin College, Assistant, Associate, Professor of English, 1964-2004 (retired as of 2004)

### MEMBER

Modern Language Association, Shakespeare Association of America, Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference and Editorial Board for its publication, Society for Values in Higher Education, National Federation of the Blind

### PUBLICATIONS

"Moral Education in the Novel of the 1750's." Philological Quarterly, 44 (1965): 73-87.  
"The Generations in Henry IV." Twentieth Century Interpretations of Henry IV, Part Two, ed. David P. Young. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1968.  
"The Moral Languages of Rosalynde and As You Like It." Studies in Philology, 68 (1971): 167-76.

Shakespeare's History Plays: The Family and the State. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1971. Selected for MLA Scholar's Bookshelf. Excerpted in several collections.

With Barbara Pierce. The Design of Poetry. West Haven, CT: Pendulum Press, 1973.

"Shakespeare's King Lear." The Explicator, 37 (1979): 7-8.

"Ben Jonson's Horace and Horace's Ben Jonson." Studies in Philology, 78 (1981): 20-31.

"'Very Like a Whale': Scepticism and Seeing in 'The Tempest.'" Shakespeare Survey, 38 (1985): 167-73.

"Shakespeare and the Ten Modes of Scepticism." Shakespeare Survey, 46 (1994): 145-58.

"Teaching the Sonnets with Performance Techniques," Teaching Shakespeare into the Twenty-First Century, ed. Ronald E. Salomone and James E. Davis. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1997. Pp. 43-49.

"Understanding The Tempest." New Literary History, 30 (1999): 373-88. Reprinted in Shakespearean Criticism (Gale, Vol. 61).

"How Does a Poem Mean?" Philosophy and Literature, 24 (2000): 279-93.

"Intention and Ogden Nash," Comparative Literature Studies, 38 (2001): 232-48.

"Tragedy and Timon of Athens," Comparative Drama, 36 (2002): 75-90.

"Defining 'Poetry,'" Philosophy and Literature, 27 (2003): 151-62.

"From Anecdotal Philosophy to Drama: Shakespeare's Apemantus as Cynic." Classical and Modern Literature, 25 (2005): 77-88.

"Reading Paradise Regained Ethically." Philosophy and Literature, 30 (2006): 208-22.

"From Legal Document to Monolog." Selected Papers of the Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference, 1 (2007): 12-26.

"Richard Wilbur and George Herbert." Modern Philology, 106 (2008): 83-100

"Being a Moral Agent in Shakespeare's Vienna." Philosophy and Literature, 33 (2009): 267-79.

"Mapping King Lear." Shakespeare Survey, 62 (2009): 308-16.

A Stable-Lamp Is Lighted: A Sung Prayer of the Christian Tradition, History of Christian Hymnody, Vol. 5. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 2010.

"Bernard Shaw as Shakespeare Critic." SHAW: The Annual of Bernard Shaw Studies, ed. Michel W. Pharand. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2011.

"'I Stumbled When I Saw': Interpreting Gloucester's Blindness in King Lear." Philosophy and Literature, 36 (2012): 153-65.

"Performing Marriage in Shakespeare: The Tempest." Selected Papers of the Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference, 6 (2013): 43-55.

"Hamlet and the Problem of Moral Agency." Fictional Characters, Real Problems: The Search for Ethical Content in Literature, ed. Garry L. Hagberg. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2016.

"Thinking about Judgment with Shakespeare," Philosophy and Literature 41 (2017): 142-54.

- "*Macbeth* and the Tragedy of Wonder," *Essays in Criticism*, (2020): 1-14.
- "Viola's Telemachy." *Shakespeare Survey*, 25 (2022): 281-86.
- "Consenting as an Ethical Act," *Literature and Its Language*, ed. Garry L. Hagberg. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.
- "Does Shakespeare Believe in Sudden Conversions for his Villains?" *Selected Papers of the Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference*, 13 (2023): 65-76.
- "Can I Talk about Shakespeare?" *Philosophy and Literature*, 47 (2023): 46-55.