

Colonial Williamsburg

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Remembering Former Board Chair Thomas Farrell



The Colonial Williamsburg community mourns Thomas F. Farrell, II, who passed away on Friday, April 2. Farrell was chair of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation’s Board of Trustees from 2011-2016 and served on the Board from 2006-2018. Along with his wife, Anne Garland, he was a steadfast and generous supporter of the Foundation for nearly 40 years.

“Tom’s highly respected leadership at Colonial Williamsburg, in Virginia and beyond led to tremendous and lasting positive change,” said Cliff Fleet, president and CEO of

Colonial Williamsburg. “As we honor his many contributions, we will continue to build on his enduring legacy.”

Current Board of Trustees Chair Carly Fiorina remembered Farrell for his incredible dedication, thoughtfulness and congeniality. “Tom truly led by example,” said Fiorina. “The Foundation’s mission and well-being guided any decision no matter how challenging or consequential.”

Farrell was chairman, president and CEO of Dominion Energy from 2007-2020, retiring one day before his death. For Colonial Williamsburg, he and Anne Garland led key initiatives, including the Campbell Distinguished Presidential Chair Endowment. Dominion Energy has provided strong generous support of Colonial Williamsburg for many years. While Farrell served on the Board of Trustees, Dominion generously helped to support the Liberty Ice Pavilion and Dominion Energy Hall during the expansion of the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg, an extensive renovation including a 65,000 square-foot addition that was completed in spring 2020.

Farrell received his bachelor’s and law degrees from the University of Virginia, where he was appointed to the Board of Visitors and served as rector. He served as a trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and chaired the Virginia Governor’s Committee on Higher Education Reform.

“Tom was an extraordinary partner in so many ways,” said Colin Campbell, former Colonial Williamsburg Foundation president and former board chair. “He provided trusted counsel and steady leadership during times of transition, always mindful that decisions made would be instrumental in shaping our future.”