

## **All Saints and Edward Daugherty**

Each year, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) bestows its highest honor on a worthy practitioner in recognition of their lifetime achievements and contributions to the profession, as well as their lasting impact on the welfare of the public. The recipients of the ASLA Design Medal are the recognized “rock stars” of the profession and are typically practitioners whose practices span the nation. In 2010, All Saint’s beloved [Edward Daugherty](#) was awarded this high honor. Among the endorsers of his nomination was former President Jimmy Carter, who was the second resident of the then “new” Governor’s Mansion, with a garden from history that was meticulously preserved and crafted by Daugherty.

Edward grew up in All Saints, chronologically, spiritually, and professionally. His design involvement began in 1948 but his more substantive contributions to All Saints began in 1971 when the interior parking lot was removed and replaced with his iconic garden; a design project that is a master work of a nationally important designer. The age of the landscape design, at over 50 years of age, makes the space eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in part because of its association with Daugherty as well as because of the excellence of its design.

Daugherty’s work for All Saints in the 1970s was not merely limited to planting design, it was a comprehensive remaking of the ecclesiastical campus in association with the architect Tony Smith, who crafted the light and airy steel and plexiglass cloister walk that connects Egleston Hall with the sanctuary. Prior to 1972, a driveway passed awkwardly through the porte-cochere, complete with a dangerous carriage mounting block that required stair users to be repeatedly reminded to “remember the bottom step”! The remaking of space eliminated cars and created an important and treasured pedestrian enclave.

In Daugherty’s 60 plus years of practice, several projects stood out to him. All Saints was one that was nearest and dearest to his heart. The design was not a fly in amber, but as the campus grew, with Edward’s careful stewardship and guidance, the design accepted modifications, some changes were more graceful than others. It was Edward’s coaxing that led to purchase of the remainder of the block, lest a tower similar to the one-time Life of Georgia building appear to the west of the sanctuary and forever block light to the stained-glass windows behind the altar. Daugherty’s involvement with the church was so nearly continuous, through 12 presidents and innumerable wars, that the design file was never “dead filed”; a practice common to all design offices and a signal that the work there for that client is at an end. For Edward, that end came only with his death in August of 2025.

Daugherty was a realist about gardens; he knew that gardens, like people, pets, and buildings, can die. However, he was also constantly aware that there was an enormous difference between a garden whose management is inconstant and whose maintenance varies from year to year and a garden at the end of its life. All students don’t make it through school with straight “A” average. Separating issues of management and maintenance is critical in the evaluation of a building and a garden. This master work of a nationally recognized master of his profession deserves to be cherished, protected, and celebrated, not destroyed.

**Spencer Tunnell, ASLA**

**February 20, 2026**