

"Christianizing the Roman Empire (A.D. 100-400)" Ramsay MacMullen, Yale UP, 1984

Post by "Kalosyni" of July 21, 2025 at 8:17 AM

This is just an aside, but an interesting read:

[Ramsay MacMullen, distinguished Roman historian and Yale citizen](#)

MacMullen, Dunham Professor Emeritus of History and Classics and one of the greatest Roman historians of his age, died on Nov. 27. He was 94.

news.yale.edu

An excerpt:

Quote

His wide learning (he was famous for his numerous and lengthy footnotes) enabled him to look beyond the historical parameters of other historians, and to use abundant unnoticed evidence concerning Romans in their individual and family rites and daily life to advance his views. His books, and the attention and acclaim they received, were influential in opening the now established field of social history.

John Matthews, the John M. Schiff Professor Emeritus of Classics and History, has stated that MacMullen added something "broader" to the usual scholarly writing on the subject by "posing open questions and addressing them with a far greater range of texts than most were accustomed to — inscriptions, papyri, archaeological reports, literary texts from unfashionable periods of history, many of them texts whose relevance was, precisely, *not* agreed."