Editorial

Curtis W. Hart

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In May of this year, Ann Ulanov retired from her position as Johnson Professor and head of Union Theological Seminary's venerable Program in Psychiatry and Religion after 47 years of dedication and service. Professor Ulanov, which is how she was known to those of us who knew her as students and "Ann" later as we became professionals in our right, never ceased to amaze us with her command of depth psychological insights and theological understandings. Her self-discipline when it came to writing and seeing patients in her analytic practice was a role model to be emulated. We all profited from the bounty she brought to our own journeys toward intellectual excellence and professional skills. She made the psychological theories of Carl Gustav Jung and others timely and available for all those, ordained or not, dealing with the human condition in extremis or in its everyday manifestations.

Those of us who have been involved with this *Journal* over time know of her and her late husband Barry's stewardship as co-editors. They came to their post when the *Journal* was in need of overhaul less in terms of its purpose than in seeking out new contributors, Editorial Board members, and an expanded section dedicated to book reviews and discussions of contemporary artistic expressions in film, music, and the visual arts. Always these reviews displayed an appreciation of theological themes often found embedded or hidden in plain sight in the works discussed. This was apologetic theology at its best. It was a new day for the *Journal* and the Ulanovs together made the sun rise.

Sitting in this chair now, I can see better than ever how crucial the relationship of Ann and Barry expressed itself in these pages. Their warmth and zeal for the project communicated to fledgling writers, including myself, and meant more than words can say. Submitting a paper for any publication always anticipates being judged, always involves an element of risk. Risk invariably includes a chance of narcissistic injury but here in this *Journal* that risk was mitigated by the Editors' genuine care, pastoral care, for authors.

C. W. Hart (✉)
New York, NY, USA
e-mail: cuh9001@med.cornell.edu

They saw publishing as a sacred trust and an obligation to “make public” all sorts of opinions and points of view. This included some things as editors they may not have wholly embraced or agreed with. The message, so important in the development of children, that “it’s o.k. to be different” or to “say things your own way,” became an editorial standard that never had to be openly proclaimed because it was always there.

We expect that the *Journal of Religion and Health* has not heard the last of Ann Ulanov—not by a long shot. She remains a member of our Editorial Board and we look forward to hearing and learning from her as often as she wishes and in any capacity she chooses. Moreover, her presence and that of Barry Ulanov remains a guide for what we need to do. Retirement is thus not only a “goodbye” to an old place but also a welcoming to a new place. For Ann, both are grounded in what T.S. Eliot in *The Four Quartets* calls “the life of significant soil.”