

In Memoriam

*George Ginsberg, M.D.
1935—1991*

George Ginsberg served as one of the senior editors of the *Journal of Psychiatric Education* from 1983 through 1985 and as a charter member of the *Academic Psychiatry* Editorial Board from 1987 until shortly before his sudden death on February 26, 1991. As the editors of this journal over its 15-year history, we collectively want to remember George as a leader and champion of psychiatric education who is already sorely missed.

George was born in Chicago, graduated from Brown University, and came to New York City to attend medical school at Columbia University. Drawn to the public sector, he chose New York University for his general psychiatry residency training, staying on for an additional year of child training, and then completing psychoanalytic training at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute. Although George always enjoyed his small private practice, his heart was in academic psychiatry. His contributions to psychiatric education stemmed from his academic base at NYU, where he rose to the rank of Professor of Clinical Psychiatry. Among his many roles at NYU, he served as Residency Training Director for 12 years (from 1974 to 1986), Director of the University Hospital Inpatient Services, Director of the Consultation-Liaison and Inpatient Psychiatry Fellowship programs, and in later years as departmental Director of Operations, a role created for him so that he could apply his fiscal skills throughout the department. As might be expected of so dedicated a man, George was at Bellevue Hospital, on his way to see a patient, when he passed away.

Like many of us, George found support and succor in the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training. He held all of that organization's elective offices, serving as its president from 1987 to 1988, and continuing on the Executive Committee thereafter in an operations mode that mirrored nationally his role at NYU. He was always geared to innovation, piloting the residency log, gaining sponsorship and support for the AADPRT Newsletter, and helping establish the AADPRT Charter Fellowship. As AADPRT president, George played an important role in the transformation of this journal into *Academic Psychiatry* and in facilitating its publication agreement with the American Psychiatric Press.

George also made great contributions to the field of psychiatry through the American Psychiatric Association. In recent years he represented Area II (New York and Puerto Rico) in the assembly and served as the

assembly's liaison to the Council on Medical Education and Career Development. In the APA he eschewed narrow advocacy for psychiatry while championing quality treatment for the mentally ill. He demonstrated that academic psychiatry has much to offer to both the public and its service system, thereby gaining support for psychiatric education and training.

We all have personal remembrances of George's kindness and warmth. He was a man of ideas, wry wit, and steady energy (exemplified by his "addiction" to the New York City Marathon); it is therefore hard to comprehend his sudden death in his prime. We extend our condolences to his family and, with the entire community of psychiatric educators, share in their loss. A fund has been established at the NYU Department of Psychiatry to support an annual lectureship in George's name and memory.

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William H. Sledge, M.D.

Robert Cancro, M.D.
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