

EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS ON A LEADER LOST

It is my belief that behavioral optometrists form a distinct subgroup within the profession not just because of the model of vision we share, but for other reasons as well. I am convinced that if a group of us took a personality assessment test, the results would indicate that we're people oriented, altruistic and humanists. These attributes would then explain the predictable behavior many of us show when misfortune strikes. There are usually phone calls or visits with offers of help that are made because of genuine concern.

Such phone calls were recently made, not so much to Homer Hendrickson's family, but more to each other. Many of us needed consolation because of the magnitude of our loss.

Homer was not the father of behavioral optometry, yet he fulfilled a father figure role for many of us. I didn't know him as well as I could have and this will be a continuing

source of regret. In spite of this, the picture I'll remember will be that of a tall, gray-haired wise man who could temper the meaning of "bottom line" with his love and respect for people; a man who could make difficult decisions that were accepted because of his integrity and quiet charisma.

This *Journal* has lost its consulting editor, optometry a teacher, and all of us a friend we could trust and on whom depend.

This issue of the *Journal of Behavioral Optometry* is respectfully and affectionately dedicated to Homer Hendrickson, O.D., D.O.S.

Irwin B. Suchoff, O.D.
Editor in Chief



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