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Commentary

Dutch Reeve

Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture



finished our amazing afternoon by asking "What are you here for anyway?" By then I was so enthralled by this man that I had forgotten my original intentions. Well, this special meeting left little doubt in my mind and I quit my job as head of a school for emotionally disturbed adolescents and applied to veterinary school. When I was accepted, he was one of the first to call and excitedly congratulate me. Throughout my years in school he constantly kept ahead of my progress and gave me encouragement during the most difficult times of veterinary school. When I graduated in 1986, he attended the ceremony and had such kind words for me.

One is fortunate to have a few special people touch their lives. For me it has

been my mother and father, my wife and children, my first boss in education and Dr. Allam. I will always appreciate his wisdom and guidance and will miss him greatly. We were all so fortunate to have known him and his legacy will always live on through our fine Veterinary School as he was such an integral part of making it the fine institution it is today.

St. George Hunt, V.M.D., '86

I first met Dr. Allam when I was 32 years old in 1981. I was considering going to veterinary school and through mutual friends of my family I was introduced to him.

We met on a beautiful late spring afternoon at Allam House. I anxiously introduced myself to Dr. Allam and explained that I was there to discuss my dream of becoming a veterinarian. I told him I was 32 and that everyone was discouraging me as I had a promising career in education and it made little sense for me to give this up at such a late age. After a brief, perfunctory discussion about veterinary school and its rigors, Dr. Allam looked at me and without hesitating said, "Young man, of course you must vigorously pursue your dreams. If you do not, life will pass you by." As quickly as he said this with a sparkle in his eye, he said now lets just sit down and talk about life. For about two hours we sat and talked about everything. I told him things that I rarely would reveal to anyone but felt so comfortable with this special man. After two hours (although I was there to seek his support for veterinary school), I reluctantly said I had to leave. In his gracious fashion, he said that was fine and

Mark's love of the Devon Horse Show & Country Fair went further than his merely sitting on the Board of Directors. He served on several committees, and each year organized the veterinary service for the Horse Show.

For many years he and his wife Lila participated in the Carriage Pleasure Drive and in more recent years he could be seen at the rail showing the same enthusiasm he had as a competitor.

Leonard King

I just want you to know that I have always looked up to Mark so much. He has been a great friend for many years and was always there when needed. I will miss him a lot. I was at New Bolton in the beginning and have always had the highest regards for everyone and everything there, and I know what an important role Mark played in it and how very important New Bolton is to everybody.

Mrs. Richard C. duPont

As expressed several times today, Dr. Allam always portrayed a tender sense of compassion for his fellow men. Mark was not only deeply compassionate with the human race but also with the animal kingdom.

Recently, in an executive committee meeting of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture there developed a rather heated discussion as to how the Society could or should join with farmers and other groups to reduce the devastating deer population in Pennsylvania. Mark calmly quelled the heated de-

bate when he indicated in due time a birth control procedure would be developed to control the deer population humanely.

Mark's comments quelled the debate and the Committee challenged Mark and his veterinary colleagues to earnestly pursue the development of a humane birth control procedure for deer.

Mark's challenge still stands for all you veterinarians.

Dutch Reeve
*Philadelphia Society
for Promoting Agriculture*