

Dedication

This special supplement to *The Journal of Investigative Dermatology* is dedicated to Dr. James N. Gilliam, whose career was devoted to the study of the manifestations and mechanisms of connective tissue diseases in the skin. Jim Gilliam effectively united dermatologists, internists, rheumatologists, and immunologists in the study of autoimmunity and connective tissue disease. His cooperative approach to the study of cutaneous manifestations of multi-system diseases has been a model for many other research groups that have followed. We dedicate this issue to Jim's example. The contributors to this volume are his colleagues, friends, and students and others who have continued his efforts to understand the fascinating spectrum of connective tissue diseases in the skin. The desire to honor Jim Gilliam arises from his enrichment of our discipline and the fine role model that he provided. We also honor Jim's work by demonstrating in this issue the clinical and investigative spectrum of connective tissue diseases in the skin, and the active and exciting research into pathomechanisms of this group of diseases.

In many ways, the most rewarding and least tangible quality of a life is to influence people, that is, to lead people to change their minds and to change their careers. It was Jim Gilliam's vision that dermatologists should accompany clinical and basic scientists from all specialties during their exploration of human disease. He chose to do this by emphasizing collaboration among reasonable people. His genius was a personality that brought people together into units of great strength through the magic of interaction with him. In particular, he loved young people, especially children, and he had great enthusiasm for the process of learning. You would find him often in the hallway at a meeting, giving his ideas away. He delighted in providing people with new information, and he was happiest when his trainees or associates saw a unique idea or solution for the first time. Thus, his former students, associates, and teachers honor in this issue an individual who changed their lives by bringing a sense of excitement, integrity, and community to our search for truth.

David A. Norris
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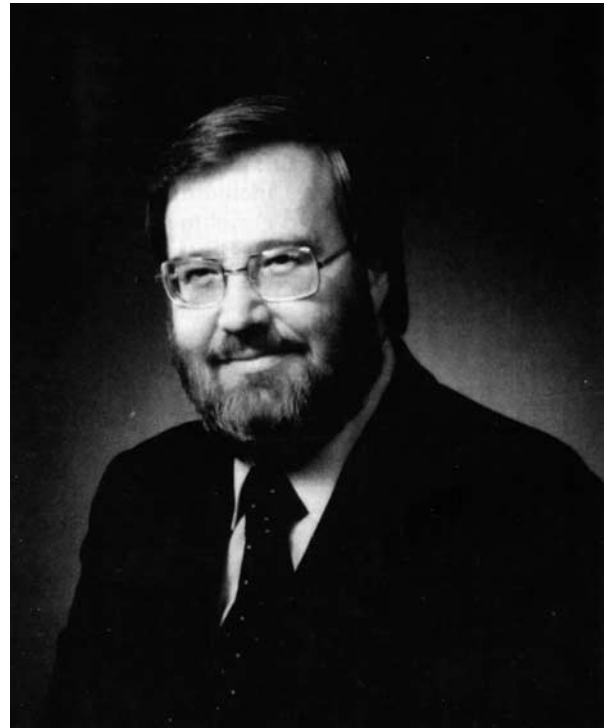


Figure 1. Professor James N. Gilliam, M.D.