

painmanagement

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

President's Message

Joe Kleinkort, PT, MA, PhD, CIE, CEAS, DAAPM

Loss is such an empty bittersweet word. It is shallow and so insensitive. We have all heard of stories of loved ones who have gone through much of this and close personal friends these past few months with so many natural disasters. Through all of this we have lost to our profession two towering pillars of strength, courage, and fortitude that emulate the very profession they come from. They both in many different ways contributed to the field of Pain Management. The both will be genuinely lost in our profession.

Joe Kahn, PT, PhD, 79 of Syosset, NY, died June 25 after a long illness. To those of us who knew him he was one of if not the "GODFATHER" of pain management through his various uses of electrotherapy. He was such a tremendous mentor who always had time to spend with a learning therapist until they got it. His love for his profession and the students he touched was evident in the time he spent and action to gently and lovingly teach and care for their growth as they learned all they could about the endless techniques he would have to apply to various anomalies. I will never forget the many times we spent discussing various applications of therapy and the one day that I actually taught laser to Joe in 1980! He addressed this in one of his early electro books. But he taught me so much in so many ways as he did so many other therapists in their professional walks. He loved to write and was finally able to finish *The Principles and Practice of Electrotherapy* which was published in 2000 and has been translated into many languages. Any of us who ever came into contact with him will never ever forget the legacy that he left with us from the love of a profession and the love of the patient care. His heart was huge and his legacy even larger. We all will miss you dear friend.

Jules Rothstein, PT, PhD, FAPTA, at the age of 57, died August 27 after a long illness. I knew him as Editor-in-Chief of *Physical Therapy*. All you would have to do is read his various commentaries over the years as Editor of our journal to feel and sense his tremendous love for our profession. One only has to read *Journeys Beyond the Horizons*, Mary McMillan Lecture 2001 to tap into the respect and honor that he had, as well as the vision for our future. He contributed many books and articles throughout the years but one of his greatest accomplishments was that of giving us sage and often needed advice on how to mold the future of our profession. Jules always was there to tell you how many ways his life was blessed. The largest bless-

ing was to those of us whose lives he touched in a very personal way. The character and dignity in which he went through the tremendous adversity of his twilight years spoke volumes of the strong oak of a person that he truly was. Both of these men have left an indelible mark on our profession and to the cause of pain management. They will be truly and deeply missed.

On a separate note, I would like to strongly encourage each of you to attend this year's CSM. Join us for our first cocktail party before our Business Meeting which is scheduled for 6:30 PM on Friday. This will be a time to network and meet in person those who are interested in pain management. We also have a wonderful academic program scheduled this year and hope that all can attend. Finally may I wish each of you blessings on this holiday season and thank you for all of your support.