



Gerald M. Siegel

November 17, 2014

Siegel, Gerald M. 82, was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. In 1954, he received a Masters from Brooklyn College and in 1957 a PhD from the University of Iowa in Speech Pathology and Audiology. During his 45-year academic career, most of which he spent at the University of Minnesota, he was regarded as a leader in his field, receiving awards for teaching, scientific writing, and research. He was awarded Honors of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2002, and a Lifetime Achievement award from the Minnesota-Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2003 and received a distinguished teaching award at the University of Minnesota, where he began teaching in 1961. He had a wide variety of interests including: playing guitar, singing, folk music, playing handball, bicycle riding, and cooking. Most recently he authored three books, which included memoirs, poems, short stories about his life, and reflections on his academic career. Jerry and his wife Eileen founded the Keren Or Creative Arts Forum in honor of their daughter Karen Siegel-Jacobs, who preceded them in death. The forum recognizes the fine artistic work of Jewish teens. Dr. Siegel is survived by his wife of 61 years, Eileen, his son Joshua, son David (Michelle), son-in-law Matthew Jacobs and four grandchildren; Jacob and Elana Siegel, and Allison and Zachary Jacobs and dear friends, colleagues and students. Funeral Services will be on Thursday November 20th 10:00am Adath Jeshurun Congregation 10500 Hillside Lane West Minnetonka, MN 55305. Shiva at 5501 Village Drive #105 Edina, MN 55439 7:00pm Thursday,

Saturday, and Sunday nights. Memorials preferred to the Karen Siegel Jacobs Fund (Keren Or) at Adath Jeshurun Congregation; or the University of Minnesota Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology Gerald M. Siegel Student Initiative Fund, 15 Shevlin Hall, 164 Pillsbury Dr. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Arrangements by: Adath Jeshurun Chevra Kovod Hamet and www.Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall



“ It seems strange that I, Peter Conlin, should post a comment on this page nearly three years since the passing of Gerald but events of the last few weeks have led me to search for this brilliant man. My communication with Gerald was brief, a couple of letters, which revolved around one brilliant quote from a paper he wrote in 1981 and which I came across in the 1996, The message represented a real eureka moment and it is a message that has stayed with me all this time. It was the basis for one of the chapters of my own book on stammering/stuttering "Stammering...scariest than Voldemort. I was a student at the university of Newcastle upon Tyne (England) studying for a degree in Speech between 1992 and 1996. As I approached my finals, I had to study a module dedicated to advocacy, how to prove that Speech and Language Therapy worked. I resented the whole concept of advocacy as I felt it was simply a matter of wasting valuable time filling out pointless forms to prove to bureaucrats and pen-pushers that my therapy worked, time that could have been better spent treating my clients. I was in a group of four and we shared out books and articles, I was searching the library at Newcastle University and I found Gerald's 1981 article and it contained the most wonderful, stick that in your pipe quote (sorry, British colloquialism). Sadly moving around a great deal since gaining my degree in 1996 meant that I have not the actual quote but the gist lives in my mind and heart. Gerald message was; Not only is the question of whether therapy works pointless but having to answer it is even more pointless, as trained therapists we all know that our therapy works, and we know it works because it has been stringently tested by people at universities and academic institutes under very tight guidelines and criteria. Not only is it pointless but it is time wasting as well. It is also pointless because the people who pose the question do not care if therapy works, and even if we do prove beyond any doubt whatsoever they will not accept the answer anyway. The question is posed for financial reasons and is posed by people with a "JAUNDICED HEART AND SHRINKING PURSE". I fell in love with that one line, I could not wait to tell the rest of my

*group, it is bringing back such memories for me even now.
We decided to write to Gerald to say how much we loved the quote
and to our utter amazement he took the time to reply. If I had a
spare twenty hours I would try to search through all my belongings as
i think i still have the letter somewhere. his picture is exactly as i
thought he would look.*

So why am I searching him out now after all this time?

*I have just started an MA in Production for Film and Television at
Teesside University (England still) and i was trying to get support
from the student support service, I suffer badly with depression. The
support for depression and mental illness is now very tightly
controlled with lots of pointless form filling out and 'scoring' of
symptoms at every session. I contacted the head of student support
to criticise the service and as i wrote my email the phrase, my
favourite phrase, as beautiful as any line in poetry "...with jaundiced
eye and shrinking purse" popped into my head.*

*The British health service used to be brilliant but it is deteriorating
rapidly as more and more clinical staff;, doctors, nurses, Speech
therapists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, dieticians are put under
more and more stress to fill out forms and prove that they should
keep their jobs. We employ more and more administrators (the
number goes up every year and their salaries are unreal) to create
forms and the reason, viewing therapies with "Jaundiced eyes and
shrinking purse".*

*Gerald was truly a great man and the fact he took the time to reply
to four speech students at a University in England proves that,
I loved his quote in 1996 and I love it even more now.*

My love goes to you all.

I say a prayer for Gerald, may he rest in peace

Peter Conlin - November 01, 2017 at 04:02 PM

BF

“ *Jerry was a wonderful, warm jovial person. His wife Eileen is a best
friend from childhood. My condolences to her and family.*

Barbara Field - December 07, 2014 at 10:34 PM

AG

“ *My deepest condolences to Eileen and her family. I was a student of Gerald's from 1978 to 1981 and thought of him both as a mentor and a friend. I have fond and pleasant memories of staying with him and Eileen for a week while I defended my thesis. I had recently renewed correspondence with him and regret that I had not responded earlier.*

He was a wonderful person, teacher and friend, who inspired thoughtfulness and creativity in his students. He will be missed.

April Gregora



April Gregora - November 24, 2014 at 09:09 AM