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Commentary

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I was saddened to learn that Dr. Mark Allam has followed his late wife in death. I have many fond memories of Dr. and Mrs. Allam, and had the good fortune to be a student when Dr. Allam became dean and put our school on the pathway out of mediocrity to become one of the best institutions of its kind. They will be remembered with a great deal of fondness and respect by those of us fortunate to have known them.

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I had the fortune of having met this giant of our profession 30 years ago, when I first arrived in Philadelphia from my native Cuba. His guidance proved decisive in my career development. His sense of humor, as well as his amiability, impressed me so much that I adopted his philosophy in dealing with any problems in life. May his memory live with everyone of us and with every follower of Chiron's art, now and in the future.

I. Jaime Figueras, D.V.M., J.D.

When the Rolling Rock Races were alive and well in Ligonier, PA, Dr. and Mrs. Allam, who loved to attend them, used to stay at my mother's house. I remember there was always a frenzy of activity and preparation in anticipation of their arrival. I'm sure my mother made me practice my curtsy at least a hundred times. It was like getting ready for a Hollywood celebrity.

Even though I didn't see Dr. Allam for several years after the races ceased to exist, when I did, he always remembered me and was just as kind and charming as he could be. In my mind, he'll always have celebrity status.

Sandra Stringer