

Harold Schwartz 1902-1980

In Memoriam

HAROLD SCHWARTZ, D.D.S., M.S.D. 1902-1980

It is my greatest sorrow that I must write about the untimely death of my dear and special friend, Harold Schwartz. Harold and his wife Ruth were killed by unknown assailants in the garage of their home on June 15th.

Harold was a 1924 graduate of the College of Dentistry of Loyola University in Chicago. As a young man Harold had studied music, together with Benny Goodman, at the original Jane Addams Hull House in Chicago and financed his dental education by playing the clarinet and saxaphone with many famous dance bands and opera orchestras.

After practicing general dentistry for seventeen years, Harold, through his reading and by attending lectures on the subject, developed a strong interest in orthodontics. Returning to school, he received his Master of Science degree in orthodontics from Northwestern University in 1941. Earlier, he had earned a degree in logic from the University of Chicago reaffirming his continual interest in the pursuit of learning.

After completing his course at Northwestern, Harold went into private practice. However, he continued to teach orthodontics on a part-time basis at Northwestern University. He directed and guided graduate students in the scientific methods of research, as well as aiding them in the preparation of their master's theses.

A devoted member of the Angle

Society, especially the Midwestern component, Harold served a term as president of the organization. He was a frequent contributor to the society's programs and a member of several important committees.

One of his greatest assets was his ability to write beautifully. His papers attempted to shake orthodontic thinking from the narrow confines of mechanics into the broader field of biology in which the dentition lives.

Papers authored by Harold included: Some Aspects of Scientific Methodology Applicable to Orthodontics, The Norm Concept, The Field Concept, The Case against Biomechanics and The Invariant Segment (co-authored with Dr. Chester Wright). All of these papers were published in The Angle Orthodontist.

He had a vital interest in his patients beyond their orthodontic needs. One of his former patients said, "He was not only my orthodontist he was my mentor."

Harold and Ruth are survived by a daughter, Sandra Bartky, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Illinois Circle Campus in Chicago and a son, Jeff, social worker and probation officer in Los Angeles.

Orthodontics has been enriched by Harold Schwartz's presence as a special person, and it will remain enriched by his friends who will cherish his memory.

A.G.