

A tribute to Eugene E. West

Eugene E. West, visionary, mentor, colleague, father, and friend, personified the art of giving to everyone who appeared within his sphere of influence. Gene did not procrastinate life but acted each day with visions of tomorrow. He savored his days with purpose and the passion of exploration, and he used his compass before the clock. He believed in walking the path of his words, in becoming the change he wished for our world. Gene chose to make music rather than noise, to encourage rather than to discourage. He was true to himself and others. Gene showed his love for his family and friends by always reaffirming their unique worth.

The Wisdom Literature trumpets a consistent theme through time: "Giving is life's greatest



reward." Balance your vision through internal discovery and cultivation of quality relationships. Choose your path with personal integrity and trustworthiness and by focusing on the Important. Then give your gift in harmony with God, Nature, and the Golden Rule. Gene reflected this wisdom.

Dr. Eugene West had a passion for orthodontics that spilled into many of our hearts. We remember his deep laugh, quick wit, contagious sense of humor, and his soft, insightful way of resolving our pains. He unmasked this specialty for us as mentor, leader, and friend. Dr. West sensed our promise and served as our lighthouse; a spinning prism to guide our visions, choices, and journeys. He inspired us to seek the highest level of achievement. His immortality will glow through us.

Thank you, "Big Daddy"!

This tribute to Eugene West was written by Wayne G. Watson. Gene's son, Stephen, read it at Gene's funeral, August 17, 1995.