## **EDITORIAL**

## An appreciation of Dr Mark Hartman, founder and editor-in-chief of the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine

Roy McClelland, FRCPsych, MD, PhD, DIC, Professor of Mental Health, Director, School of Clinical Medicine, Department of Mental Health, The Queen's University of Belfast, 97 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7BL, Northern Ireland.

DR MARK HARTMAN, a household name in Irish Psychiatry, died on the 9th of January 1994. Friends and colleagues who knew him well described him as the brightest person they have known and a man with a remarkable mind. Mark was a keen teacher and generous with ideas and information. He was sharp in argument, never far from debate, yet bore no grudges. Mark had an outstanding undergraduate

career with degrees in Science, Arts and finally in his chosen vocation Medicine. He received numerous honours and prizes throughout. While studying at Trinity College Dublin he attained the position of Trinity Scholar and was described as "the best student in his class" by the late Professor Beckett, then Dean and Professor of Psychiatry.

Mark's longstanding interest in Postgraduate Education and training was reflected in his early appointment as clinical Tutor at St Brendan's Hospital in 1973 and Specialty Tutor in Psychotherapy for the Eastern Region Postgraduate Training Programme from 1979 until the present



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time. Between 1983 and 1985 he was Associate Professor and Director of Group Psychotherapy Training at the Division of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine.

Mark was best known for his work as Editor-in-Chief of the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine. He breathed life into the Journal and was very much its life and spirit. Those who assisted with Journal reviews know well his academic

shrewdness and tenacity, matched only by his business acumen. It is an appropriate epitaph that this issue of the Journal marks a new landmark of success changing in frequency from three to four times yearly.

Mark bore his illness with fortitude and determination. He never complained, – rather he remained immersed in his work as a clinician, champion of the Journal, father, husband and friend to his very last hours in this life. The College and Irish Psychiatry have lost a very dear friend and colleague. Yet his spirit lives on in the pages of the Journal he so ably created and nurtured.

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