

---

## Reader comments

DEAR DR. ROBERTS:

I want to tell you how much I enjoy reading *Baylor University Medical Center Proceedings*. You have done a wonderful job with that journal.

The articles are well written, practical, and informative. The illustrations, graphics, etc., are always well done. The type size and layout of the material and paper quality all contribute to the attractiveness of the journal and are inviting to the reader.

I especially like the history of medicine articles in the October issue and plan to spend more time reading them this weekend. Great stuff!

I did not know that Maurice Adam had died. I too thought that he was a fine surgeon and first-rate fellow. I got to know Maurice when we were beginning our program at Presbyterian. He operated on some patients at this hospital, and I had the pleasure of clinically evaluating some of them and performed their preoperative cardiac catheterizations. I recall one patient with rheumatic heart disease who we recognized needed mitral and/or aortic valve replacement. In the course of reviewing the patient's hemodynamic data in our weekly cardiac catheteriza-

tion conference, which Maurice faithfully attended, I noted a small and unexpected gradient across the tricuspid valve on some of the pressure tracings. I suggested that it would be worthwhile for him to explore the tricuspid valve with his finger following the other valve replacement surgery, before closing the chest, in the event that the gradient indicated significant stenosis. Sometime later, Maurice advised me that he had indeed explored the valve with his finger, found it severely stenosed, and elected to replace it. Maurice appreciated my observation, and I really appreciated his professional friendship, particularly as I knew few people in Dallas at that time.

In later years, when we would see each other while playing tennis at Northwood, where we were both members, he always had a smile and a pleasant greeting. I will remember Maurice for the friendly, consummate gentleman that he was and for the professional boost that I felt working with him.

Thanks, Bill, for creating such a fine journal for all of the physicians of Dallas.

—R. BARRETT STEELMAN, MD, FACC, FAHA  
North Texas Heart Center