Our beloved friend and colleague, Alton Barbour, PhD, TEP, died on May 12th at age 81. His life spanned many professional and social circles. Alton was a faculty member of the University of Denver for 39 years, and a Department Chair for 18 years. In 2003, he was voted University Lecturer, the second highest award bestowed by the university. After his retirement, the university awarded him the title of Professor Emeritus in 2005.

Concurrent with his academic career, Alton pursued certification in psychodrama, attaining the level of TEP in 1978. Among other awards, he received a Certificate of Appreciation for 14 years of distinguished service and outstanding leadership as Chair of the American Board of Examiners (2000). For his participation in and service to ASGPP, he received the Hannah B. Weiner Award in 1998, the David A. Kipper Scholar's Award in 2002, and the J.L. Moreno Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007.

Alton never forgot his roots. He continued to support his undergraduate alma mater, the University of Northern Colorado, receiving the Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2003 and the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2005. Alton was also a founding member of the Colorado Language Arts Society, which bestowed many awards on him for his publications and leadership.

Alton’s impact was not limited to academic and professional circles. His avocation as a high flying trapeze catcher and flyer was a key part of his life. For 51 years, he was an active member of the Imperial Flyers Trapeze Club in Denver. He was recognized for his contributions in 2008 with an honorary lifetime membership. He also trained many trapeze troupes at Club Meds all over the world.

Alton loved to travel. His passports document his visits to many cities, countries, and continents over the years. Above all, Alton was a devoted family man and loyal friend, always finding time for his wife, four children, four grandchildren, three step-children, one step-grandchild, and many lifetime friends.