IN MEMORIAM
Joseph P. Powers

Dr. Joe Powers, a beloved, gentle, and wise colleague, passed away on January 14, 2017. Joe was a loving husband to Kathleen and a devoted father to Devin and Cullan Powers. Joe was born in the Bronx, NY and lived there until moving to Boston in 1975. Joe was educated at Catholic University in English Literature at NYU in Communications, and then completed his Doctorate at Boston College and Harvard University.

Joe was the first Director in Residence at the Moreno Institute in Beacon, NY (1971) and then continued to dedicate his life to helping others. Joe did this through a lens of awe and appreciation of the beauty in the world. In 1975, Joe, together with Peter Rowan, founded the New England Psychodrama Institute and started the Psychodrama, Group Psychotherapy Master’s Program at Lesley University in Boston.

Joe has been part of the ASGPP Community since the early 1970’s, he is a Fellow, and has presented many many times at conferences from the 1970’s to the 2000’s. For over three decades Joe worked as a “Master” group therapist, teacher, trainer, supervisor and researcher, impacting the training and work of hundreds of clients, students, trainees, and colleagues.

Rebecca Walters beautifully summarizes Joe’s gifts this way: “He empathized the importance of life transitions and ritual, was a master at using Sociometry to help uncover the connections and conflict in the group.”

Working in groups became a second home to Joe – one he filled with compassion, wonder and awe – inspiring others toward change and healthy relationships. For the last three decades Joe has been the Director of Group Psychotherapy at McLean Hospital, ran a private practice, and worked with individuals and families of all ages.

Joe’s sincere warmth, humor and empathy touched everyone. He will be greatly missed.