

REMEMBERING DAVID LOYE

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Abstract:

Systems theorist, consciousness researcher, and neuropsychologist Allan Leslie Combs presents a brief remembrance of a mentor who became a true friend.

Keywords: Mentor; Friend; David Loye; Remembrance

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David Loye was a colleague and dear friend, and for me a professional mentor. I first made David's acquaintance during the early 1980s when I came across an article written by him in *Omni* magazine, at the time a popular publication that covered both science fiction and creative science. In it he described a questionnaire designed to localize personal thinking styles into specific quadrants of the brain. At the time I was involved in research on brain laterality of function, so I wrote to him about his interest. In those days I was teaching at a small public university in North Carolina, and was pretty much an unknown researcher. To my surprise, David enthusiastically replied, inviting me to join him as a fellow investigator. This work, with only a small contribution of my own, was later summarized in David's book, *The Sphinx and the Rainbow: Brain, Mind, and Future Vision* (1984, Bantam Books). (He had a gift for engaging titles!)

I found David to be a warm and enthusiastic person. During the following years we became good friends, and through his influence I was invited to become a member of

the General Evolution Research Group, organized by David and system theorist Ervin Laszlo. David and Ervin's friendships, and the group they had organized, opened a new international world of colleagues and professional meetings for me, and produced many trips to meetings in Europe, especially in Germany and Italy. I owe Ervin, and before him David, for opening the doors to this scholarly universe for me.

Over the years, David and I continued to enjoy each other's company. We worked together on many projects. Perhaps the most important for me was the creation of The Society for Chaos Theory in Psychology and the Life Sciences in the early 1990s. This has provided a venue for many talks and publications and continues to be a go-to resource for my own doctoral students.

I will miss David, but he lives on in my heart; his memory is still very much alive.

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