Memoria

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Steven R. Heyman (1946–1993)

Steven R. Heyman, professor of psychology at the University of Wyoming for more than 12 years, met an untimely death on November 1, 1993. The Denver police and Laramie and University newspapers alternately reported that he was killed by an unknown assailant(s) and his body was found on the highway. It is quite likely that we will never learn the conditions under which he died.

As a researcher, educator, and clinician, Steve made outstanding contributions to exercise and sport psychology, rural community psychology, and clinical psychology. To untold numbers of students and colleagues whose lives and concerns he touched, Steve was a scientifically and socially responsible psychologist; a caring, supportive colleague; and a friend.

Born December 28, 1946, Steven R. Heyman was the older of two boys. He grew up and attended public schools in Brooklyn, New York. Steve graduated from City College of the City University of New York in 1968 with a major in psychology and minors in English and sociology. Although he left New York City for graduate school, his heart remained in New York, and he made an effort to return there several times a year. He earned his MA in psychology with an emphasis in personality from California State University, Sacramento in 1970. Steve completed an internship in clinical psychology at the University of Florida and received his PhD in Clinical and Community Psychology from Louisiana State University in 1976.

Throughout his career, Steve Heyman held a variety of academic and clinical positions. His first academic position was as an instructor in the Department of Psychology, Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 1975. He taught there for one year, during which time he was promoted to Assistant Professor.
In 1976, he filled a one-year appointment as Assistant Professor of Clinical and Community Psychology at the University of Kansas. Steve returned to Southwestern Oklahoma State University, and for 5 years was a clinical psychology consultant at the Child Guidance Centers of the State of Oklahoma. Steve was invited to join the Psychology Department at the University of Wyoming in 1981 as an Assistant Professor, where he progressed through the ranks to Professor in 1990. From 1984 to 1988, Steve served as Director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology. True to his clinical background, Steve was a licensed psychologist in the State of Wyoming.

Steve Heyman was a primary force in the development of the sport and exercise psychology community. He was an inquiring researcher, served on numerous editorial boards, and was active in professional organizations. Early publications in the area included “Psychological Variables Affecting SCUBA Performance” in *Psychology of Motor Behavior and Sport—1979* (1980); “Sport and Recreational Participation: The Effects of Sex, Sex Role, and Sensation Seeking” in *Psychology of Motor Behavior and Sport—1980* (1981); “Comparisons of Successful and Unsuccessful Competitors: A Reconsideration of Methodological Questions and Data,” *Journal of Sport Psychology* (1982); and “Problematic Issues in Sport Consultation,” *Consulting Psychology Bulletin* (1984). Recent publications reflected Steve’s continued interest in sport and exercise psychology: “Psychological Factors in the Use of Recreational Drugs and Alcohol by Athletes” in *Athletes at Risk: Drugs and Sports* (1989); “Referring Athletes for Counseling and Psychotherapy” in *Applied Sport Psychology* (2nd ed., 1993); “The Hero Archetype and High Risk Sport Participants,” in *The Psyche at Play* (in press); and “Homophobia in Sport” (in preparation) with Brian Butki and Mark Andersen at the University of Wyoming.

Throughout his career, Steve was active in a variety of professional organizations, including the American Psychological Association (APA) and the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA). Steve organized symposia and presented papers at NASPSPA conferences first starting in 1979, when I had the pleasure of meeting him. He continued to present his research findings at NASPSPA conferences in 1980, 1981, 1983, 1984, and 1986 and at Association for the Advancement of Applied Sport Psychology (AAASP) conferences. Once the possibility of a Division for Exercise and Sport Psychology (Division 47) in APA emerged, he enthusiastically solicited the membership for the signatures necessary to establish a new division. Steve served Division 47 as Program Chair in 1987, as Secretary-Treasurer from 1987 to 1989, and as President from 1989 to 1993.


Steve was proud of his interest in exercise and sport. He thoroughly believed in the need for psychologists and physical educators to work together to strengthen the academic, research, and professional components of exercise and sport psychology. Steve taught courses in the School of Physical and Health Education at the University of Wyoming on a regular basis, as well as in the Psychology