



A Tribute to Harry Strouse, Esq.

May 14, 1912 – June 22, 2008

With his passing, the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation shall forever miss the services of a dedicated visionary and enthusiastic leader. In eternal gratitude, we acclaim this man for his great leadership.

In memory of a friend, a founder and a true leader:

The poet James Henry Leigh Hunt wrote "Abou Ben Adhem" describing a man who lived his life "as one who loves his fellow men." This favorite poem of Harry Strouse also describes his approach to life. Harry Strouse was instrumental in establishing and expanding Ashland Trusts, the forerunner to Schuylkill Area Community Foundation. His foresight and efforts covered all aspects of founding an organization that would help people and organizations within the local region. He was a charter member of the Board of Directors of said organizations from the inception of Ashland Trusts in 1967 until his death on June 22, 2008.

For over forty-one years, Mr. Strouse devoted an indeterminable amount of time to the work of the Foundation, formulating policies, developing new funds, attending a multitude of committee meetings and never missing a Board of Directors' meeting. He was a dynamic force, facilitating the growth of the Foundation from one fund with \$1,000 in principal to, at the time of his death, 106 funds with a market value exceeding \$10 million dollars. From the inception of the Foundation until very shortly before his death, he served as Secretary-Treasurer to the Foundation, establishing excellent transcripts and carefully monitoring investments.

In his professional capacity as an attorney, he imparted to his clients information on the Foundation and the perpetual benefits of a philanthropic lasting legacy, which resulted in the establishment of many funds and paved the way for the creation of additional funds in the future. His strong convictions on the value of perpetual endowment funds were imparted to others as he acted as mentor by sharing his knowledge of the work of a charitable foundation with all members of the Board of Directors and staff. Thanks to his vision, the residents of Schuylkill County have enjoyed, and in the future will continue to enjoy, the benefits and results of his unselfish service.

Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. - Warren G. Bennis