

Dedication

David L. Norton, who was a friend, contributor to a supporter of this journal and its editors, died on July 24th, 1995. He was 65. As Mary, his wife and collaborator reports, he died nobly and in peace.

His major work, *Personal Destinies, A Philosophy of Ethical Individualism* (Princeton, 1976), is an absolute philosophical gem. He poured his soul into that work and it shows. He lived his philosophy through and through. He was the lone heroic figure to some of us on the contemporary philosophical landscape, a rare giant in a land of far too many clever, sophistic but souless dwarfs. We have no better way to express our admiration and love for David than to quote two of the most memorable passages from his sagacious and inspiring masterpiece, *Personal Destinies*.

Beneath the accretion of contravening epochs and cultures a vestige of the original eudaimonistic intuition endures today, I believe in the individual's residual conviction of his own irreplaceable worth. But this small conviction is wholly unequipped to withstand the drubbing it takes from the world, and from which all too often it never recovers. At its first appearance it is buffeted by alarms and commotion, and trampled beneath the scurrying crowd. Propped upright it is conscripted to this cause or that where roll call is "by the numbers," truth is prescribed, and responsibility is collective, the individual's share being determined by arithmetic apportionments. What remains is a merely numerical individuation, deriving its fugitive worth from the collective whole of which it is a replaceable part.

The individual's small intuition of his own irreplaceable worth, however, is the intimation of an individuation of an altogether different sort from the merely numerical, namely, qualitative individuation that renders each person unique in his (in the Greek term) arete, or personal excellence.

The Editors