

IN MEMORIUM

DR. TED ENGSTROM

1916-2006

On July 14, Christian Management Association lost a former Chairman of the Board, long-time advisor and mentor, when 90-year-old Dr. Ted Engstrom went to be with the Lord he had loved and served so faithfully for so many years. Most of all, we lost a dear friend, but we're deeply grateful for the opportunity we've had for these past 30 years to know him, to serve with him, and to benefit from his wisdom and guidance.

His faithful and selfless service as an evangelical leader was truly remarkable. During his long and distinguished career, he served as general manager of Zondervan Publishing, president of Youth for Christ International (YFC), executive vice president and then president/CEO of World Vision International (WVI), and interim president of Azusa Pacific University. He was a skilled business manager, excellent preacher and the author of more than 50 books.

Dr. Ted somehow found time to serve on, and/or chair, many boards, including those at YFC, WVI, Focus on the Family, Azusa Pacific University, the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, the Institute for American Church Growth, African Enterprise, and his alma mater, Taylor University. After stepping down as WVI president, he remained as President Emeritus until his death.

Dr. Ted's involvement with CMA encompasses its entire history. In 2002, as we marked our 25th



anniversary, he was asked to write an article for this magazine, outlining his recollections of our history.

"It was a quarter of a century ago," he wrote, "that one of my colleagues at World Vision, Alan Bergstedt, approached me regarding what he sensed was a need for sharing information among Christian organizations. I encouraged him to call together some of his counterparts among evangelical agencies in Southern California and discuss the possibility of meeting together on occasion to share their experiences."

The first meeting was held on March 20, 1976, with 25 leaders of ministries, professional accountants and advisors that were serving those ministries. Thus was born Christian Financial Executives Association, the original name of our organization. In 1986, Dr. Ted was the recipient of CMA's highest honor, the Christian Management Award, and from 1989 to 1992, he served as CMA board chairman. Right up until his death, he remained as a valued senior advisor to CMA leaders.

Toward the end of the article mentioned above, he wrote: "During these past 25 years, we've witnessed significant growth in CMA, both in membership and in its influence, and the future looks very bright...It's best days, indeed, lie ahead!"

Much of that brightness is due in no small measure to the wisdom, guidance and inspiration we received from one of the Lord's choicest and most faithful servants, Dr. Ted Engstrom.