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REMEMBRANCES OF A FRIEND.....

By Steve Krut
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Many people love their jobs, and I am one of the lucky ones on that score. But I also came to love and admire the boss.

Bob Madeira hired me to come to work for the American Association of Meat Processors in 1974, and while I was thankful for the job, I didn't grasp nor could appreciate then what lay ahead. But after a few years, I came to see the boss not just as the man in charge, but the man who cared.

Bob could reach every one of us on a very personal level and showed that he cared, not only about the organization he worked for, but for the lives of those who worked by his side. One could appreciate his detailed organizational skills, or the way he put words together for a talk he was going to give, or the polite way he had of scolding even the most crusty, hardened government official. With Bob, it all came from the heart and you could feel it.

I'll miss those words of encouragement he always seemed to have just at the right time, or that little note or message he wrote on something you turned in. He always reminded you that you were appreciated.

Bob taught me many things. He helped me understand how the inspection program worked, how to be effective at bringing about changes, how to be prepared and how to anticipate. But he also taught me that what you get out of life is what you give. He showed me that good moral values, that setting a good example, that lending that helping hand when you had more convenient things to do, that going beyond the Golden Rule...that those were the deeds in life that really mattered.

Good friend Bob, you will be missed most because you made a difference that was good and was special for everyone you touched. I am honored to have been a part of your life and shared your work and was blessed by your friendship and prayers. May you forever remain in mine.