

Another Memory by Judge Dan Sawyer

We are all hero oriented. Everyone carries in his mind the image of an ideal and when he sees that person he knows who it is. In my early teens John Grimek represented what I wanted to be. I told him once, "I worked hard enough to have been a John Grimek over and over." Compared to him I was like a candle at high noon, but I am ten thousand times better for trying. In the process I developed a life long quest to become better in every way and there are hundreds more who are better men because he lived.

He had life in perspective. His achievements, as we know them, were not his goal. He told me, "It seems everything I did turned to muscle, but the gym is not a place to develop the ego, but the place to develop character and health . . . that is what it is all about."

Whatever were his lifetime achievements, his real greatness was that he was kind and thoughtful and one of the finest gentlemen any of us ever knew. The English language has more words than any other, and is known for its precision, yet it still does not contain the words to describe him.

As the poet said, "The paths of glory lead but to the grave." However, there will always be a certain magic in the name John Grimek. He still gives us hope, and his life will float forever through time blessing and inspiring those who follow.



MARK BERRY PUBLISHED THIS PHOTO OF THE VERY YOUNG JOHN GRIMEK IN *YOUR PHYSIQUE AND ITS CULTURE* IN 1935. BERRY WROTE: "ONE OF THE BEST BUILT MEN OF ALL TIME. AN INCREASING NUMBER THINK HE IS THE BEST BUILT."