The career of John Grimek reached a high point on Saturday evening, April 13, when this happy, dedicated family man shared with his lovely wife, Angela, their Golden Wedding Anniversary. All six of their children were there, along with eight grandchildren, many other family members and approximately 300 guests from the United States and Europe. So loved is this living legend that his friends from around the world wanted to pay their respects to John and Angela on the occasion of their celebration of 50 years together.

It was a glorious evening and the dinner party and dance was held at the Windows on the Green in York, a town John helped to make famous. John and Angela spent much of the evening on the dance floor, showing the kids how to do the polka, and the nostalgia flowed like good wine. And to top off the wonderful meal, a proclamation was read to John and Angela from the governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

As one might have expected, the crowd was peppered with various “greats” in the iron game, and I’ll mention a few names knowing that I’ll no doubt leave a few out. Among those in attendance were Bill Pearl, Leo Stern, Ed Jubinville, Jules Bacon, Joe Marino, Johnny Mandel, Jim Murray, Bill Starr, Joe Abbenda, Al Thomas, Fred Howell, Glen Sunby, Cy Masarski, Dave Mayor, Dr. Charles Simkovich, Biagio Filazola (all the way from Italy), Julian Levy, Dr. Serafin Izquierdo, Dr. Charles Moss, John Terlazzo, Mike D’Angelo, Dave Collier, Val Vasilef, John DiCola, Bill St. John, Jan Dellinger, Reg Ireland, Dr. Ken Rosa, George Coates, Frank Ficarra, Dick Smith, Dr. Jerry Weisfogel, and Len Bosland.

This meeting brought together many of the same people who come every year to our annual meeting of the Association of Oldtime Barbell and Strongmen in New York City, and it reminded me that our meeting for 1991 is just around the comer. It will be held again at the Downtown Athletic Club, on the 28th of September. We hope to have an even larger celebration than the one we had in 1990 and I urge those of you who enjoy talking about the golden age of the iron game to come to New York and share the nostalgia with us. Everyone is welcome and if you’re a dyed in the wool fan of the game, you’ll feel right at home and get to mingle for hours with dozens of the legends in our field. We’ll have special presentations, films, slide shows, live performances of strength and muscular development and a fine meal to go with it all. To secure either a ticket to the banquet or to get information about reservations at the Downtown Athletic Club, contact me at 2218 86th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11214 or call me. My number is 718-648-5254.

[Ed. note: We were unable to attend the Grimek’s Golden night because of commitments at the university and we are envious of those who shared what must have been a particularly memorable night. We only hope and we know this hope is shared by everyone who knows them—that the Grimeks have many more rich and active years to add to the ones they’ve already shared with each other and with us. John was always larger than life and as he continues to live with such strength, vigor and obvious enjoyment, he has grown even larger as the years pass and he abides. He is an inspiration to us all, as is the wonderful relationship he has with his Angela.]