

**A Tribute to  
Richard Walters  
Executive Editor, 1993-1996  
*M Computing***

As the new executive editor of *M Computing*, it is my privilege to pay tribute to my esteemed predecessor, Dick Walters.

What is obvious are certain achievements, public recognition, and experiences Dick brought to the executive editor's position—a distinguished academic career in computer science and medical informatics, long-term involvement in the M community as a user, system developer, promoter of standardization, text-book author, and educator, and productive involvement in organizations and conferences of importance to the technology.

Of particular value to this journal have also been his common sense about technical and political topics, personal knowledge and contacts, and perspective (both from the technical and historical standpoints) on M Technology. He knows what is happening in information technology in general and in the M realm, and is in touch with the doers and thinkers that have contributed to the success of *M Computing* during the past four years. Under his direction, this publication delivered the needed range of topics, was sensitive to the international status of the M community, and fostered the development and use of M Technology.

It is typical of Dick that every task is done carefully and with devotion—whether it be the editing of this journal, or any of the many roles we recall him in through the years: distributing MicroMUMPS systems at the Annual Symposium for Computer Applications in Medical Care, helping potential users get started, mediating in standards and other disputes, and encouraging attention to the real needs of the information technology community. We have much to thank him for—his leadership, astuteness, even-handedness, clarity of thought. Without these qualities, *M Computing* would not have grown and improved as much as it has.

During the period of Dick's editorship, *M Computing* grew rich in the variety of topics covered, was responsive to the circumstances of this dynamic sphere of information technology, and supportive of quality and progress in M Technology. Thank you, Dick, for the leadership you have shown and for your tireless efforts in assuring the success of this journal.

Valerie J. Harvey, Ph.D., *M Computing* Executive Editor, 1997