

## In Memoriam

**Muska Mosston**, pioneer, innovator, legend in his own time, died July 21, 1994, at his home in Little Falls, New Jersey (USA). Throughout an illustrious career, he traveled extensively in the United States, Canada, and several countries in Europe and South America conducting hundreds of workshops, seminars, and university classes on teaching, using his creation *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles*. Since the first publication of this historic work in 1966, he spent over half his life teaching others how to expand their teaching style repertoire to meet the varying goals of education, subject matter concepts, and individual needs of students. He worked on his own, with co-author Sara Ashworth, with university colleagues and school teachers to refine, validate, and research *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles*.

Presently, *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles* is a part of several university teacher education programs around the world. *Teaching Physical Education*, the work in which *The Spectrum* first appeared, is in its fourth edition. In 1990, Mosston and Ashworth authored *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles: From Command to Discovery* to demonstrate how teachers in all subject matter areas could plan, teach, and evaluate more effectively. Further tribute to the international importance of his work has been the printing of *The Spectrum of Teaching Styles* in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Greek, and Japanese.

The first of his major works, *Developmental Movement*, will forever impact the teaching profession. In 1965 he introduced the concept of inclusion through the manipulation of degree of difficulty to provide opportunities for all youngsters to be included, challenged, and successful in physical activity, rather than excluded and failures based on rigid, single-standard measures of success. He not only implemented this concept with undergraduate teacher preparation students at Rutgers University (New Jersey); but also through a weekly television series, *Shape Up*, in New York; at a summer camp for youngsters with disabilities; and in 1990 through affiliation with Sportime, an equipment company dedicated to inclusion.

He received several prestigious awards including an honorary doctorate and University Metal of Honor for contributions to pedagogy by the University of Jyväskylä (Finland), the National Validation Award and Author Award for outstanding contributions to education by the New Jersey State Department of Education, and the 1993 Phi Epsilon Kappa Outstanding Teacher Award from East Stroudsburg University (Pennsylvania).

Born in Haifa (in present day Israel), he graduated from Zinman College of Physical Education in the Wingate Institute, and taught physical education in several locations in his native land. He also was a paratrooper instructor and served with distinction in the Israeli military.

In 1950, at the age of 25, he came to the United States, and by 1954 he had earned B.S. and M.Ed. degrees in Physical Education from the City College of New York; he earned an Ed. D. from Temple University (Philadelphia) in 1972. He chaired the Department of Kinesiology at Rutgers University (1963-70), taught pedagogy courses at East Stroudsburg University (1970-72 and 1992-93), directed an independent Center on Teaching (1972-80), and was a visiting pedagogy professor at Temple University (1975-76).

The untimely death of Muska Mosston has left family, friends, colleagues, and students around the work with a huge sense of loss. He lived his life to the fullest with energy, humor, compassion, creativity, brilliance, and the ability truly to love and care for others.



*Suzzane Mueller and Rudy Mueller  
East Stroudsburg University  
East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania (USA)*

*Photo courtesy of Sportime, Atlanta, Georgia (USA)*

### An Invitation to Readers

To celebrate and perpetuate his life, work, and spirit, we are compiling a collection of *Muska Stories* and a *Tribute to The Spectrum of Teaching Styles*. Please take some time to write your remembrances of Muska, and/or the impact of *The Spectrum* and his teachings in your life, and send them to Dr. Rudy Mueller, East Stroudsburg University, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 (USA). Include pictures (if possible), dates, names, and your return address so materials can be sent back. Please spread the word! And thanks for contributing to an unusual, humorous, sentimental account of Muska and a tribute to his life's work and contributions to physical education around the world.