

THE CHIROPRACTIC CHOICE

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This issue of The Chiropractic Choice is dedicated to Dr. Fred Barge who served as the Editorial Chair and wrote the "Thots" column since the paper was launched seven issues ago. Fred deliberately chose controversial topics for his editorials and was especially pleased when he received letters from readers disagreeing with his viewpoint. He loved debate. Following the announcement of his passing, ICA received hundreds of emails from individuals everywhere, people whose lives he had touched in some way or another. We regret we cannot publish all of them due to space limitations, but we thank everyone for sharing their "thots" about this extraordinary person. There have been, and will be, many great leaders and teachers. But there will only be one Fred Barge. – MR

I had the privilege of having Dr. Barge as an instructor throughout my studies at Palmer College 99-02. I always enjoyed those early morning philosophy classes where he would start the class by saying, "Good morning fledgling chiropractors!"

Even when I was getting close to graduation Dr. Barge would always make time to talk to me when I would drop by his office. We would discuss the intricacies of chiropractic philosophy, technique and how to run a successful office. He even took the time to look over my office floor plan, compared it to his and gave me some valuable advice.

Of all the things I miss at Palmer College I miss Dr. Barge the most. I would have loved the opportunity to have him come down to this northern Canadian town and see my office and how much he influenced me.

Thank you Dr. Barge for all the wisdom that you shared with me. It will never be lost or forgotten. Enuf said.

Robert R. Landriault, DC
Canada

★ ★ ★

The chiropractic profession has lost an icon, ICA has lost a great leader, and I have lost a dear friend. Fred was my colleague, teacher, mentor and close friend. We tipped back many a "libation" together and his "Barge-isms" will remain with me forever. We referred to each other by the presidential numbers we both held in the ICA. I would often get a phone call that started with "Greetings number eleven" to which I would reply, "Greetings number nine." Fred was an original and my life in chiropractic, and in every way, is better for having known him. There can never be "enuf" said about Fred Barge. I will miss you my friend.

Robert Braile, DC
ICA President 1995-99
Georgia, USA

★ ★ ★

While attending Cleveland Chiropractic College-LA, Dr. Barge came and spoke to our class. I was captivated and in awe of his message and presence. What a man!

Peter Barnes, DC
California, USA

★ ★ ★

Truly an outstanding clinician, educator, writer, leader of chiropractic. As a medic I had little knowledge of chiropractic other than the negative writings in the medical literature. Dr. Barge introduced me to the wonders of this relatively new

health care profession via his body of written work...all well-written masterpieces. He was a principled chiropractor in the tradition of DD and BJ Palmer. Although Dr. Barge has passed on, his spirit and love for chiropractic will live on in the many students and interns who were privileged to have him as a teacher. Dr. Barge God speed you in your journey to everlasting love with the creator.

Frank Austen, MSc, LPCP
Director of Respiratory Care
Temple University Hospital
Philadelphia, USA

★ ★ ★

Dr. Fred Barge was an inspiration to many, who like me attended Palmer College. Dr. Barge was also a patron of mine when I worked at Front Street Brewery. He would often sit with his wife Audrey and eat dinner while chatting with me about chiropractic, BJ, rugby or anything and everything. Unfortunately many students in the future will miss this great "dinosaur" and his amazing personality.

Craig C. Banks, DC
Ohio, USA

★ ★ ★

I had just finished Dr. Barge's great book *Are you the doctor, doctor?* and sent him a letter last week to tell him how outstanding I found his book. This is a great loss for real chiropractic and chiropractors. I hope this is not a sign for the future of our profession.

Benoit Rouy, DC
France

★ ★ ★

We've lost another great one. I'm saddened but happy I had gotten to meet him and speak with him. His enthusiasm and manner is one of the things that has shaped me into being the chiropractor I am.

Gene Martin, DC
USA

★ ★ ★

I remember the first time I heard Dr. Fred Barge during an assembly at Life College. His deep voice and melodic intonations made his presentation distinctive. I'll never forget one of his Barge-isms that I still use today. He would say, "Fear is the fuel that fires the furnace of dis-ease." I feel fortunate to have met Dr. Barge and to have heard his many lectures. Chiropractic has lost a great man, he will be missed.

Robert D. Shire, DC
New York, USA

The man was great. Upon learning of his passing, I raised my glass to ol' Wisconsin and saluted Fred. Icon, ol' Dad Chiro, ADIO, adios dear fellow!

James Milliron, DC
Washington, USA

★ ★ ★

I was a first trimester student at Logan and was basically (no pun intended) there to learn how to treat back pain. Dr. Barge came to one of my classes, introduced himself as a "dinosaur" and went on to leave me spellbound. I have been a tremendous fan ever since, reading his books, attending his lectures and listening to his "On Purpose" interviews. He is a man who will truly live on, both through his measurable accomplishments and through the generations of "back pain treaters" who were turned into real chiropractors. Thank you Dr. Barge.

Howard Headley, DC
USA

★ ★ ★

Dr. Fred was an inspiration to many. He was a true philosopher, writer and lecturer as well as a man who was not afraid to say what he believed. He was one of the people who inspired me to start writing and sharing my chiropractic ideals and opinions with others. I remember his words, "Egads, Armand, you have more than enough materials to start writing books. It is absurd that you don't!"

The book will come one day...I promise. You will be missed, but your memory will be treasured. Thanks Fred.

Armand Rossi, DC
Florida, USA

★ ★ ★

Fred came to Australia in 1983 and although we only met him for a week he left a permanent impression on all those he associated with. I am proud to call him my friend in every sense of the word...We have many fond memories of his stay, his generous address to the students where he explained that DC stood for 'Doctor of Chronic's', his late night demonstrations of chiropractic technique on the hotel room coffee table following wonderful (and well lubricated) discussions on chiropractic philosophy. We will miss his thots.

Peter W. Bull, DC, MAppSc
MacQuarie University,
Australia