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Remembering JCT

 $Relembrando\ JCT$

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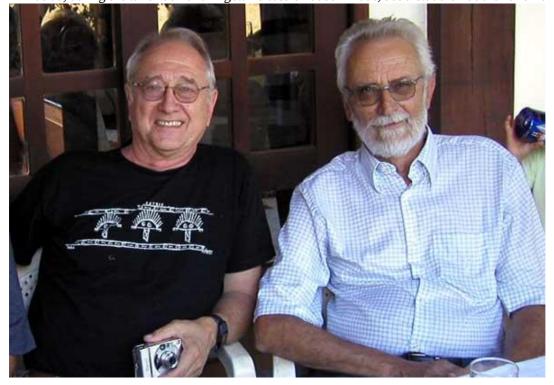
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I appreciate this opportunity to share memories of João Claudio Todorov, a generous, warm-hearted man committed to making the world a better place, a giant in the field of behavior analysis, but most memorable to me for his dedication to creating opportunities for others. Fred and Frances Keller glowed when they told stories of their times with him and Silvia, so I was prepared for his warm welcome on my first visit to Brazil in 1995. His closeness with the Kellers was affirmed when Frances held an Irish Wake a week after Fred passed away in 1997, and João Claudio flew to the US to participate.

As my collaboration with Lincoln Gimenes bloomed, he welcomed me to the University of Brasília and his fine home there and offered us good counsel as we addressed the dangers of environmental poisons. He facilitated our ties to Catolica University in Goiânia where his support helped our collaboration with Christiano Coelho.

He also invited me to visit with Márcio Borges Moreira and his other colleagues at IESB University in Brasília where I learned of the many important educational innovations he began with them. He supported me in many ways. I remember his kindness and his exceptional vigor even though he had a personal battle with his breathing, pulling his oxygen machine behind him as all of us tried to keep up with his pace.

Figure 1
In Brasília, during the lunch at Maria Angela Feitosa's house in 2006, João Claudio Todorov and David Eckerman.



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One time I visited for a week and he invited me to stay at his home. I have two special memories from that visit. The first is what I discovered when I went into his study to retrieve a document from his printer. This person who took and carried out executive responsibilities so carefully kept In his bookcase (along with other memorabilia) the famous photo of Ché Guavara. I'm sure he retained it from his days as a student leader. The second memory is a stop at a supermarket we made one evening as we approached his home. He took one large rolling cart and motioned for me to take another. "Pick out twenty good large tomatoes, "he said. "I'll get other things and then tell you what's next." We took home two full carts of groceries that day. Silvia was traveling. What was all this food? "I feed many people," was all he said. We had a nice simple meal that evening, and I realized that others would too, thanks to him. A generous, warm-hearted, and unforgettable man.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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Invited paper

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