

The American GARDENER

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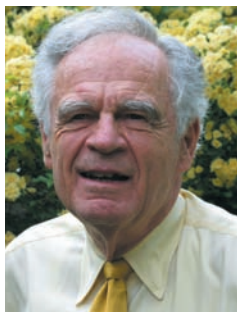
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NOTES FROM RIVER FARM

“Green is the color of hope.”

—H. Marc Cathey

AS THIS ISSUE of *The American Gardener* was being readied for press, we received the sad news that Dr. H. Marc Cathey, retired president emeritus of the American Horticultural Society, had passed away at age 79 in his home town of Davidson, North Carolina. In addition to serving twice as president and later as president emeritus of the AHS, Marc's contribution to American horticulture over the course of his 50-year career is legendary. American gardeners and the entire horticulture industry have lost one of their greatest cheerleaders.



Marc's life was a celebration of all things green and growing, of creativity and science, and of family and faith. He was a remarkable man and an accomplished horticulturist. Through his lifetime achievements as a noted research scientist, a dynamic communicator, and a respected green-industry champion, millions of Americans have been touched in some way by his work.

Marc loved being around people. He always had time for a few words of encouragement or advice for a friend or colleague wrestling with the challenges of academic or professional life. To the hundreds of horticultural professionals across the country who have benefited from Dr. Cathey's wisdom and mentoring, he will always be “Uncle Marc.”

It is only fitting that Marc lived by the passionate belief that “green is the color of hope, and in the color of plants is our hope for the future.” In light of the turbulent times we are living in today, his words ring true more than ever. Plants not only bring hope for solutions to many of the challenges of the world, they add beauty to our surroundings, refresh our spirits, and nourish our bodies.

We dedicate this issue of *The American Gardener* to Marc's enduring legacy to the American gardening world, to his years of dedicated service to the American Horticultural Society, and to the hope and inspiration he has given us that will live on in our hearts forever. Uncle Marc, we will miss you.

Susie Usrey, Chair, AHS Board of Directors
Tom Underwood, Executive Director



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You can read an article about Marc Cathey, view photos of him, read articles written by him, and see tributes from some of his colleagues and friends—including a poem written by University of Georgia horticulturist Allan Armitage—on the American Horticultural Society's website (www.ahs.org).