

honoring COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOUNDING CHAIR
HENRY A. JORDAN, M.D.

The Community Foundation commemorates Dr. Henry A. Jordan, our Founding Chair of the Board from 1994-2000, who passed away at age 73 on April 19, 2010. In 1993, Dr. Jordan spearheaded a group of five leading philanthropic families to create the Chester County Community Foundation.

Born and raised in Stroudsburg, the son of two doctors, Claus and Charlotte Jordan, he graduated from Exeter Academy and Harvard University. Dr. Jordan earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He served in the Army Medical Corps at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. A Founding Director of the Institute of Behavioral Education and member of the faculty of Psychiatry at Penn, he developed a specialty in behavior modification, obesity and healthy diets.

In 1984, Dr. Jordan became Executive Director and Chairman of the Board of The Claneil Foundation, a family foundation that addresses access to nutritious food, health services, education, and a healthy environment.

Dr. Jordan was also involved with the burgeoning efforts to preserve open space in Chester County, first as Chairman of the County Planning Commission and later as a member of the Advisory Commission that recommended the first county-wide open space bond issue to the County Commissioners in the late 1980s. That blueprint focused efforts to fund open space preservation in the face of rampant development in four areas: agricultural preservation, grants to land trusts and conservancies, municipal park development, and county park acquisition.

Dr. Jordan served as Chairman of the Campaign for Penn Medicine; Co-Chairman of the University's Making History Campaign; Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; President of the Preservation Trust of Vermont; and founder of Glynwood Center. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and of the National Parks Conservation Association.

Henry and Barbara Jordan established scholarship programs for Penn medical students and established the Jordan Center for Gynecologic Cancer at the Abramson Cancer Center at Penn.

Most recently, Dr. Jordan convened and chaired the Chester County Anti-Poverty Task Force, dedicated to addressing and eliminating poverty. Dr. Jordan also served on the Advisory Board of the Chester County Food Bank and was very interested in the connection between accessing nutritious food and eliminating poverty.

Dr. Jordan reveled in the joy of giving, paired with an obligation to serve the community. He was passionate about the societal change that came from community involvement. Amidst his many accomplishments, an unending fondness for travel, and a lifetime interest in learning, Dr. Jordan's greatest love was for his family.

To honor the Jordan Family's enduring, dedicated commitment to philanthropy, the Community Foundation established the Dr. Henry A. & Barbara M. Jordan Award for Lifetime Philanthropy in 1999. This endowed award will forever commemorate the Jordan Family's great deeds, and inspire others to take the lead in philanthropic initiatives.

