Obituary

Sidney J Golman, LLB, J.D.

Sidney J Golman, LLB, Attorney, a non-physician member of the International Medical Society of Paraplegia passed away at the age of 80 at his home in the San Francisco Bay area on July 25, 1995. Sidney's involvement in spinal cord injury began in the 1950s when he represented catastrophic injury claims in the United States for Lloyds of London.

As individuals with spinal cord injury began to survive their initial hospitalization, Sidney initiated a life long crusade to coordinate and improve the many components of spinal cord injury care in the belief that it would improve their quality of life in the long term. He was one of the first Americans to understand and appreciate Sir Ludwig Guttman and the innovative system of care at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. He introduced American physicians and insurance companies to the Stoke Mandeville Hospital system of care thus leading American spinal cord injury care into its modern era. He influenced many notable spinal injury physicians such as John Young, Ed Carter, Bob Jackson, Conal Wilmot and Harry Hahn, to name a few. It could be said that he knew more about spinal injury care and the needs of spinal injured patients than most spinal injury physicians.

In his later years, Sidney led the way in creating programs to curb skyrocketing malpractice insurance claims in the United States. He always searched for the middle ground which would serve the best interest of both patient and service provider.

Sidney's wife of 51 years, Phyllis, passed away in 1990. He will be missed by all, especially those with spinal cord injury in whose lives he made a lasting difference.

Robert R Menter, MD