

PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES, CARVER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
September 2019



In Memoriam

Richard M. Caplan, MD

July 16, 1929 - August 20, 2019

Last month we were deeply saddened by the news that our dear colleague Dick Caplan died.

Dr. Caplan initiated the Program in Bioethics and Humanities many years ago, and the *Richard M. Caplan Chair in Biomedical Ethics and Medical Humanities* was established in recognition of his leadership and dedication to teaching, research, and patient care at the University of Iowa from 1961 to 1997.

His kindness, encouragement, insight and eloquence will be greatly missed.

If you would like to read an autobiographical reflection that Dr. Caplan wrote in 2013 (at my request), you can find it [here](#). It provides an engaging picture of the beginnings of ethics and humanities at the Carver College of Medicine, and of the remarkable and generous role Dick played in making those beginnings grow and flourish.

Lauris C. Kaldjian, MD, PhD

Richard M. Caplan Chair in Biomedical Ethics and Medical Humanities

Director, Program in Bioethics and Humanities

Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa

"I have always felt that the practice of medicine is not simply a matter of applying scientific principles and knowledge to patient care, but involves "the art" as well. That nebulous term includes for me a broad sense of people and the world, and much of that arena is encompassed in the wide notion of medical humanities."

- Richard M. Caplan, MD (2013)