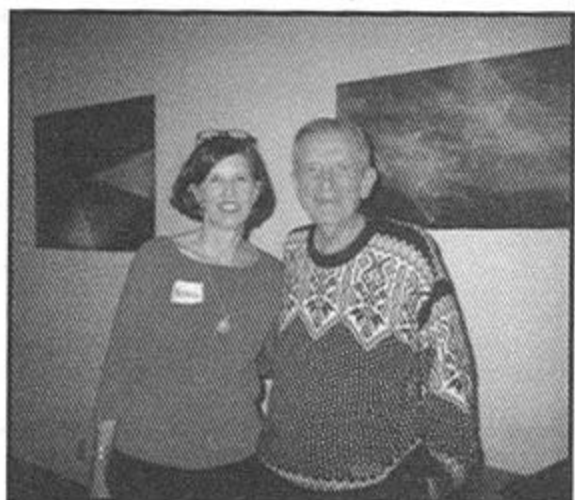


# Stanley... As I Know Him

Reflections from a friend and colleague

by Justina Lasley



**D**R. STANLEY KRIPPNER IS A GUIDING LIGHT AND INSPIRATION for me and for hundreds of students and professionals in the field of Psychology—in our waking life *and* in our dreams.

Not surprisingly, Stan is usually surrounded by people he has taught, mentored, and supported. He is seldom found alone.

One time in 1997, however, he was alone at the Atlanta airport. As a graduate student, I was honored to be asked to meet Dr. Krippner at the airport and take him to the University of West Georgia, more than an hour away. He was to be the key note speaker for a symposium.

What a great opportunity for me—alone with Dr. Krippner for almost two hours.

I was a bit nervous—how could I sustain an intelligent conversation with him during our drive? I cleared my calendar for his arrival day, Sunday (or so I was told.)

I will never forget a phone message on *Saturday* afternoon that was something like: "This is Stanley Krippner. I am at the Atlanta airport and wonder where I should meet you." Ohmigosh! It felt like I had just failed the President of the United States. How could this be? I nervously checked my calendar and information

regarding his arrival. Clearly it said SUNDAY! And I had Saturday dinner guests.

After controlling my panic and after many unanswered calls to professors at the University, I finally found someone to drive to Atlanta to get Dr. Krippner. He waited several hours, but true to his character and his **unfailing patience**, he didn't seem to mind.

When I saw him the next day, he was not upset with this mistake regarding his arrival date. He was just thankful that he eventually had a ride and was pleased to be back at West Georgia with old and new friends. And, of course, **we were happy to be with him**. Who has not been?!

Many times I have found Stanley to wait, wonder, and even enjoy the situation—no matter how unfortunate the circumstances that unfold. Never complaining... that is Stan. **Always looking at the bright side of life!**

My initial encounter with Dr. Krippner was during my first semester of graduate school. The Chair of the psychology department, Dr. Rice, was a former Saybrook student and currently a close colleague of Stanley. I had a trip planned to San Francisco and Dr. Rice suggested that I look up Dr. Stanley Krippner. Of course, I knew his name and reputation. What? Look him up? As if Dr. Krippner would have

time or desire to meet me!

Dr. Rice insisted and I promised I would call and did so... nervously. Amazingly, Dr. Krippner welcomed my call. He mentioned that he was leaving the next day for South America, yet he encouraged me to come by Saybrook. To him it was important to make the connection. Connections... hmmm... that is one thing that Stan does well for all of us. **He connects us to each other.**

As an advisor to so many, one must wonder how he keeps up with all his e-mails? I can imagine (with terror) the number he receives daily. And he responds promptly and personally! I saw him at one chaotic APA Convention taking advantage of a few minutes break to search out a computer to tend to his e-mails. Attentive... hmmm.... That is what Stan is to us. **Attentive to our individual needs.**

When I began writing my book on dreams, he took a deep interest—encouraging me and offering bits of wisdom about how I might proceed. He does that for us--**Offers wisdom.** To hear his comments, I did have to keep up with him (no easy task) as he headed off to his next meeting at the Association for the Study of Dreams annual conference, moving quickly across the campus, talking to

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## Famous Quotes

"Man is a genius  
when he is dreaming."

Akira Kurosawa,  
Japanese filmmaker.

"The future belongs to  
those who believe in the  
beauty of their dreams."

Eleanor Roosevelt

"Existence would be  
intolerable if we were  
never to dream."

Anatole France,  
French novelist.

"Why does the eye see a  
thing more clearly in  
dreams than the imagina-  
tion when awake?"

Leonardo da Vinci  
(1452-1519), Italian artist,  
scientist, architect, genius!

wise, strong, gentle, energetic, yet calm....

**Stanley Krippner is a blessing.**  
A blessing to his students, his friends, his colleagues, his country, and to the world at large.

I am lucky to have him as a part of my life! I am sure that many of you feel the same way. Anyone who has had the privilege of meeting him knows that **Stan is the Man!** ♪

several people at the same time. A comment here, a smile there, a handshake, an autograph in one of his many books, and a quick photo by one of his dream friends. He doesn't miss a beat. **He is a generous man, always sharing.**

All of this is done with good nature and a gratitude for being asked. Stanley **teaches us the gift of gratitude and acceptance.**

I was flattered and amazed that a man of this depth not only read my book and commented, but wrote the foreword. How many books do you think he has to read and how many papers from his students and research from his colleagues, as well as lectures to prepare, aspects of dreams to research, conferences to attend, key note speeches to deliver? Obviously, he understands and practices time management. Commitments?

Yes, **Stan is committed.**

When I began to create a dream certification program, I needed great advisors, well versed in the world of dreams. Stan offered to be there for me, with me, and guide me. He was not an advisor in name only, but had a **sincere interest** in meeting the students and sharing in ways he could. Just what he "needs", more students! He is a **dedicated teacher** in the truest sense of the phrase.

**He really cares about each person he meets**—not only those who have

similar interests in dreams, but anyone who is following their soul path—and even those who are not.

Recently, I began dream work at the Open Center in NYC—and who was there for my first weekend?! You guessed it! Stan led our group Sunday after having led a dream workshop for actors all day Saturday—and I understand he partied Saturday night with NY area Saybrook students. To get to the Open Center, I suggested he take a cab rather than the subway from his hotel—to save time and energy! When he arrived early Sunday morning he thanked me, since by taking the cab he had time for his morning jog on the streets of NY. Really, where does he get this energy? **Energetic he is!!**

Dancing with Stanley is not to be missed! At the annual Dream Ball of the IASD conference, Stan stays on the dance floor. I love to dance, but I admit that I have to rest every now and then. Not Stan—**he's out there moving to the beat**—one of the last to leave the party. He always wears a costume while many others use the excuse that they didn't have time to get one together. **"Excuses" are not part of Stan's life style.**

People gather around him—students, colleagues, strangers (but not strangers for long). **Everyone loves Stanley.** I believe everyday he impacts many lives in major ways.

**A remarkable man—**