

*Tribute to James Read  
March 17, 2008*

*I am very pleased and honored to be presenting The John Cambareri Award for Excellence in Psychology in Idaho for 2008 to Dr. James Read. I hope you will bear with me as I give a little background. I was first introduced to Jim Read by a common friend and immediately liked him. He was leaving the directorship of the St. Alphonsus Health Promotion Institute, and I was starting a new private practice here in Boise. Jim and I shared an office, and he supervised me for six months until I received my license to practice in 1988. During that time Jim helped me deal with troubling clinical issues, while providing a constant model of a solid, ethical professional. It was Jim's guidance and steady clinical skills that helped me figure out the practical side of being a psychologist, as well as, understanding how to be a businesswoman and a clinician.*

*Jim was a well-rounded professional who was always a strong proponent of doing pro bono work and helping the less fortunate, a practice he continued throughout his clinical career. He wrote a weekly column in the Idaho Statesman from 1982-1994 on health promotion and issues relevant to mental health – a total of 650 articles. He was an enthusiastic guest speaker throughout his professional life on topics related to health promotion and the importance of exercise and fitness. Most importantly, he practiced what he preached and lived his life as a fitness enthusiast. Even today while spending most of his time in a wheelchair due to ALS, he rides daily on his stationery bike.*

*Jim is the consummate family man and his family embodies many of the values he shared with his colleagues over the years. His wife Heidi, and daughter Hanna, are extremely creative and most recently donated fabric art pieces for an auction on Valentine's Day for IdahoSTARS, a program to promote quality and inclusive childcare throughout the state. This is just one of the many examples of their volunteer spirits. I admire all of them for their amazing creativity and generosity (including son, Tobias, who is a State Representative in Oregon). Jim and his family are unassuming, socially conscious, community activists who have lived a lifetime advocating for peace and goodwill towards their fellow humans. I feel very fortunate, as I know so many other people do, to have shared time with them during Jim's professional career in Boise.*

*Jim Read has been a role model of a distinguished psychologist and is, indeed, deserving of the John Cambareri Award for Excellence in Psychology. I wish Jim and his family the very best as they travel this journey together and thank Jim for making me the psychologist I am today. You will never know the full extent of my gratitude and appreciation for your guidance and counsel. I think I speak for all of the psychologists in Idaho in thanking you for the years you have given to the citizens of this State.*