

## *One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!*

### # 84 “**But they took it away when he wore it!**”

People who love their work often find it difficult to retire. And so do people who have received recognition and status from their occupation.

We live in a world where credentials are often necessary to open doors and allow us best to do the work God has called us to do. However, I have found it is not wise to allow them to define us.

At times we are tempted to confuse our titles and type of work with who we really are. When that happens we may simply brandish *credentials* granted by Universities or other institutions to define us and assure others who we are. Many years ago an older mentor showed me a newspaper clipping to make the point. I have forgotten the names and titles, but the article went something like this: “Jay Thrakenberry, PhD, M.D., J.D., D.Min., will speak tonight. His subject is Humility!”

These marks of achievement are terribly important for some of us (including me) at times in our lives. Unfortunately, such recognition can build a sense of pride and superiority as we compare ourselves with others. When that happens we may get corrected in a way that can be embarrassing.

One man made the point with this little story: “A friend told me of a man who received a button for his humility.” Then he added with a bit of humor in his eyes,

**“But they took it away when he wore it!”**

*From Grandpa With Love*

#### **A Note From the Writer**

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2018 Marvin J. Martin