

## A Word of Acknowledgment

I cannot imagine life without the nurture I have received from the men and women I consider my mentors. At home, as I have indicated in my reminiscences of growing up with *Pa* and *Ma*, albeit in separate households, there was no shortage of them. At work, they were there for the asking, as I have said in my account of working with Tom Aguirre, a giant among them.

Flor Tarriela and I, on the suspicion that the young men and women of Generation X, better known as the Information Technology Generation, take their cues from their so-called “idols” differently than we did from our mentors, decided we would assemble together, in a handy volume, our reminiscences, and those of our friends, of the mentors who, with compassion and forbearance in their heart, took a vibrant interest in getting us to succeed in endeavors that they had partially helped to shape. Whatever help the young may be able to draw from this will be this project’s own reward.

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