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To Whom It May Concern:

As I was growing up in Atiyeh Bros. and handling many Oriental Rugs it was confusing to me to determine the difference between one from another. One day I asked one of our salesmen "How can you tell a Kerman from a Sarouk, a Hamadan from a Mossoul or a Kazak from a Belouchistan". All he told me is "you will learn".

This is told because it is my wish to describe my good friend and Oriental Rug connoisseur Sammy Kahl. He came to America knowing very little or nothing about the trade of hand- made rugs. As a matter of fact he also came as a new fresh face leaving his homeland of Amar, Syria. But he was bright, worked hard and taught himself many things about life here and of the business of selling rugs.

As time moved on he established his own rug company and became a recognized and accepted rug expert. He was successful and trusted. He personally loved many types of Oriental rugs and in the process collected some rare and magnificent ones for himself.

Having spent thirty-five years full time at our company—and finally "learning" about rugs— I have a basis to compare various rug dealers. Sammy Kahl was a champion among them.

Sincerely

Victor Atiyeh
Oregon Governor 1979-1987