

### **David Andries Maas**

David Andries Maas (Dawie) is op 9 Februarie 1938 op Jacobsdal in die Vrystaat gebore as die jongste van 7 kinders. Hy het sy skoolopleiding aan die Laerskool Jacobsdal ontvang, asook aan die Grey Kollege in Bloemfontein, waar hy in 1955 gematrikuleer het. In 1964 het hy die graad MB ChB aan die Universiteit van Pretoria behaal. Na sy huisdokterjaar het hy privaat gepraktiseer, eers in Amsterdam in die (ou) Transvaal, en daarna in Frankfort in die Vrystaat. In 1971 het hy hom as kliniese assistent aan dié



universiteit se Departement Verloskunde en Ginekologie ingeskryf, waar hy in 1974 die graad MMed (O et G) behaal het. Hy het onderskeidings in fisiologie en anatomie behaal. Daarna het Dawie die infertilitetskliniek in dié departement gevestig, wat vandag nog funksioneer. In 1978 het hy die privaatsektor betree, en vir amper 20 jaar in Bloemfontein gepraktiseer.

Daarna het hy sy praktyk verkoop en is as hoofspesialis by die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag by Tempe aangestel. Hy het egter steeds na die privaat praktyk gehunker. Kort daarna het hy hom weer in die privaat praktyk gevestig – dié keer in Mafikeng, waar hy tot en met sy dood op 28 Augustus 2003 gepraktiseer het.

Dawie se belangstellingsveld was veral op die gebied van infertiliteit, spesifiek endometriose asook spermatologie, en hy het bygedra tot die vestiging van die Afdeling Spermatologie by bogenoemde departement. Hy het verskeie publikasies oor dié onderwerp die lig laat sien. Dawie het ook later bydraes gelewer op die bekende radioprogram ‘Wat sê die dokter?’ en ook op Radio Hoogland. In die laaste 8 jaar voor sy dood het hy intensief navorsing gedoen oor die Bybel en die metafisika.

In sy jong dae het hy gereeld vir Tukkies se eerste rugbyspan (medies) uitgedraf en was lewenslank ‘n baie ywerige rugby-ondersteuner. Sy groot liefde was egter gholf – hy het menige ure saam met vriende op die gholfbaan deurgebring.

Dawie was by vriende en kollegas bekend vir sy besondere en soms ondeunde sin vir humor. Hy was ‘n lewenslid van ‘Die Groot Vyf’ (drr. WE Brummer, AA Visser, J Nel en J duT Zaaijman) – die

eerste vyf spesialiste wat aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat se Departement Obstetrie en Ginekologie afgestudeer het onder tutorskap van professor Coenie Slabber, destydse departementshoof. Ons kan almal getuig van Dawie se buitengewone intellektuele vermoëns, en ook van sy nederige en warm geaardheid wat hom so geliefd gemaak het by vriende, pasiënte en kollegas. Hy was ‘n besondere mens.

Dawie word oorleef deur sy vrou Annette, sy dogter Isabel, die enigste oorlewende van drie dogters, asook drie kleinkinders. Ons dra ons meegevoel aan hulle oor, spesifiek namens ‘Die Groot Vyf’.

## J duT Zaaijman

## Louw Steyn (1925 - 2003)

Louw Steyn died on 20 December 2003 after a short illness at the age of 78 years.

He was born on 1 August 1925 in Woodstock and went to school in Beaufort West and Worcester, where he matriculated. He studied medicine at the University of Pretoria where he qualified in 1949, after which he did an internship in Grahamstown.

Following that he went into private practice in Olifantshoek, moving to Postmasburg and Port Nolloth. He settled in a general practice in Groblersdal in 1962. He was in partnership with Drs Peter Conradie and Erhard Veldsman until 1985 when he became Superintendent of Philadelphia Hospital at Denililton, eventually moving to Welkom in 1997. From 1997 until his death he held sessions as a medical officer in the Ophthalmology Department at Bongani Hospital.

He was always a dedicated doctor and enjoyed ophthalmology



during his later years, developing a keen interest in this field.

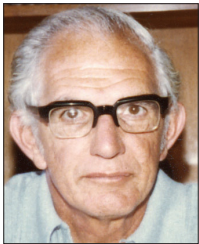
He was an enthusiastic sportsman and played rugby, tennis and baseball for the University of Pretoria. He later played golf and took up bowls, which he enjoyed until a few months before his death.

Louw is survived by his wife Doris, five children and sixteen grandchildren.

## Johan Spangenberg

*Son-in-law*

## Samuel Skapinker (MB BCh, FRCSE, FACS, FICS)



I was devastated to learn of the death on 25 January 2005 of my friend Sam Skapinker in a car accident at the age of 87. He was one of the last of the crop of prominent surgeons who strode the Johannesburg stage for 50 years after World War II.

I first met him in 1945 after his demobilisation from the South African armed forces in which he served for 6 years. Shortly thereafter he took the FRCS examination in Edinburgh, Scotland, and followed with further surgical training in Manchester.

Baragwanath Hospital, originally a British military hospital, was acquired by the Transvaal Provincial Administration *circa* 1947 and joined the Wits University affiliated group of teaching hospitals.

Sam returned to South Africa to participate in the establishment of a surgical department at the new hospital, becoming the head of one of the original 4 surgical units.

When, after several years, he left Baragwanath for private practice, he joined the part-time surgical staff at the Johannesburg General and Children's hospitals, an appointment he held until his mandatory retirement at the age of 65. He was active in medical politics, a past-president of the South African Association of Surgeons and published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals, despite the merciless demands of a huge practice. Although he retired from active surgery at age 75, Sam continued to teach at Wits Medical School until full retirement at 80.

As a young man he was a Victor Ludorum athlete, excelling as a sprinter and hurdler. He was a consummate artist and prolific sculptor, much done in wood. Sam was active in and helped to establish a medical artists' society, and he was a regular exhibitor. His home and garden were a showcase for dozens of magnificent sculptures. Until his untimely death he maintained excellent health, continuing to play golf and squash and attend the gym 4 times per week.

It was a great honour for me to sponsor him for Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons in 1980. We enjoyed a long, enduring friendship as well as a close professional relationship.

My heartfelt condolences to his wife Ellen, his children Michael, Rene and Anne, and his grandchildren.

**Norman A Blumberg**, *Houston, Texas, USA*