



IN MEMORIAM

Frank Charles Friedlander (1918 - 2005)

Frank Friedlander was born in Cape Town South Africa and was educated at Wynberg Boys School, where he excelled academically and on the cricket field. After matriculating he broke ranks with the family's legal tradition by choosing to study medicine. After graduating from the University of Cape Town he enlisted and was sent to Karachi by boat to care for a load of mules, which no doubt led to his future aversion to all things equine. Upon his return he worked for a while at Addington Hospital in Durban and there he met Barbara Palmer, whom he married.



They moved to King William's Town, where he went into private practice, most successfully. However, he felt the need to specialise further and chose paediatrics. He and Barbara travelled to Edinburgh to the Royal College of Physicians, where he surprised everyone by passing the notoriously tough examinations on his first sitting. Upon his return to South Africa he did a stint at Children's Hospital in Johannesburg, then 6 months in Bulawayo before finally settling in Pietermaritzburg in the mid-50s. By then there were three children – Jennifer, Basil and Carol – and the family integrated well in the colonial setting, while Frank began to build his practice. In 1957 Barbara tragically died and Frank was left widowed with three young children. In 1960 he married Erna Nebbe, a nurse from the Dundee district who was running a TB clinic outside of Pietermaritzburg and together they had one daughter, Nicola, born in 1964. In 1985 Erna was also taken from him and Frank found himself alone once again.

During this time in Pietermaritzburg he ran a very successful paediatric practice that served the entire Natal Midlands (and was an expert in the diagnosis of childhood epilepsy). He

continually sought to improve his knowledge, reading and attending refresher courses whenever possible. He also published regularly on a broad range of issues from childhood epilepsy to infant supplements and medical history. Frank was President of the South African Paediatric Association in the 70s, a member of the Natal Society Library Committee and served on the University of Natal Executive. He sailed yachts with his son Basil, dabbled in motorcar rallying and played golf and bridge. He was an active member of the Natal Numismatic Club and was also one of the first Jewish members of the famed Victoria Club in Pietermaritzburg. Above all, at that time he was a father to his family and friend to all he knew.

In 1987 Frank married for the third time to Elsy Hoch and soon after they moved to Cape Town where he took up a post in the Paediatric Department at Groote Schuur. After 4 years he retired to become the Medical Superintendent at the Sarah Fox Convalescent Hospital for Children, where ironically he continued to care for mostly HIV-positive children until a week before his death.

Frank will be remembered as one of life's real gentlemen. He bore neither grudge nor malice, was slow to anger and quick to forgive and he was never judgemental. He fed his mind to the very end – actively attending journal club meetings at Red Cross Hospital whenever possible, and reading all the time. His interest in history was mirrored by his numismatic hobby, and he loved both cricket and rugby. He was an avid wine taster, gourmand and lover of travel, art and music. He never lost his wonderful sense of humour, enjoying limericks and comic verse. There were few whodunnit novels that he had not read.

While we have lost a very special friend, father and grandfather it was a great privilege to have shared time with Frank and we salute the life of a very special man.

Nicola Hayward (daughter)

Barend Johannes Vorster (1923 - 2004)

Dit is met leedwese en hartseer dat ek die volgende ter nagedagtenis aan professor Ben Vorster, 'n ware vriend en leermeester, berig.

Barend Johannes Vorster is op 17 Oktober 1923 op Barkley-Oos gebore, waar hy sy skoolopleiding by 'n plaasskool in die distrik begin. Nadat hy standerd ses daar slaag, gaan hy na die Hoërskool Barkley-Oos, waar hy matriculeer. Hy studeer sy eerste jaar in die geneeskunde aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch en vanaf sy tweede jaar aan die Universiteit van Pretoria. In 1950 behaal hy die graad MB ChB aan laasgenoemde universiteit.

Gedurende 1951 doen hy sy internskap by Vereeniging Hospitaal en in 1952 werk hy as senior huisdokter by die Nasionale Hospitaal in Bloemfontein. Daarna werk hy vir 'n



jaar as algemene praktisyn op Trompsburg, gevolg deur 17 jaar as geliefde praktisyn op Springfontein in die Vrystaat.

In 1952 trou Barend met 'n medestudent, Sylvia van Achterberg, en hulle praktiseer saam op Springfontein tot 1969. In 1970 begin hy nagraadse studie in interne geneeskunde aan die Universiteit van Pretoria en studeer daaropvolgend aan die nuwe mediese skool van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat in Bloemfontein. In 1975 behaal hy die graad MMed in Interne Geneeskunde aan die UV. Hy word daarna aangestel as konsultant en spesialis in interne geneeskunde aan dié universiteit.

Onder leiding van professore F P Retief en A Heyns ontwikkel hy 'n liefde vir kliniese hematologie en bou 'n uitstekende afdeling van kliniese hematologie op. Hy lei baie voor- en nagraadse studente op in interne geneeskunde en kliniese hematologie.

In 1987 word Barend aangestel as mede-professor in interne geneeskunde tot met sy aftrede in 1997. Hy dien ook op die Voorlopige Onderzoek Komitee van die destydse SAGTR.

Met sy aftrede verhuis hy en sy eggenote na Johannesburg om nader aan hul twee seuns te wees – Bennie, 'n hematoloog, en Edward, 'n prokureur. Vanaf 1997 tot Oktober 2003 is hy mediese adviseur by die Garden City Kliniek en tree af weens siekte. Gedurende dié 6 jaar woon hy weekliks 'n akademiese hematologie-rondte by die kliniek by en lewer 'n waardevolle kliniese en akademiese inset.

Ben is op 3 September 2004 na 'n lang en moeisame siekbed oorlede. Hy laat sy eggenote, twee seuns, twee skoondogters en drie kleindogters agter. Ons medelye gaan na hulle uit. Hy sal onthou word deur sy kollegas en studente as 'n ware geneesheer, leermeester, mens en vriend.

'The fate of an institution lies within the men who work in its halls and the ideals which they cherish and teach.' -- Sir William Osler.

Paul du Toit

Paul Robert (1929 - 2005)

Paul Robert, who died on 25 May 2005, aged 76, was born in Morges, Switzerland and came to South Africa in 1957 as a medical missionary sent by what was then the Swiss Mission in

South Africa, to its daughter church, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in South Africa. After completing his basic medical studies in Switzerland, he spent 3 years at the Royal Free Hospital in London to obtain a qualification that was registrable in South Africa. He subsequently obtained a diploma in public health from the University of the Witwatersrand. Before coming to South Africa, he had married Paulette Matile, a trained nurse and an accomplished musician who shared his convictions and his calling.

Paul started his work at Elim Hospital in the then Northern Transvaal and over the years replaced doctors on furlough at the Donald Fraser Hospital and at Shiluvane Hospital, and finally took over as superintendent of Masana Hospital, now known as Mapulaneng. In 1983 he accepted the onerous task of Secretary for Health for the Gazankulu Homeland, at a time when health services in African areas were underfinanced and when attempts to improve were being constantly blocked by bureaucratic measures. With the dissolution of the homelands, he was involved in re-integrating the health services of Gazankulu, Lebowa and Venda into the National Department of Health while based in Pietersburg (Polokwane).

Wherever he worked, he and his wife were actively involved in the work of the church, in community affairs and in personal contacts with members of the local communities. In addition to his administrative capabilities, he had a wide range of the clinical skills needed in rural areas. All with whom he came in contact were struck by his dedication, integrity and devotion to his mission to help others. He will be remembered with gratitude and affection by his colleagues, his many friends and co-workers and of course by all those whose lives he was able to influence.

After retirement, the Roberts returned to Switzerland to be near their families. Paul nevertheless continued to be active in many things and was at a history conference when he collapsed two days before his death.

All his colleagues, friends and those whose lives he touched extend their deepest condolences to Paulette, their three daughters and their families.

Pierre Jaques