

Marius Zandvoort



Marius was born in Johannesburg on 12 February 1975 and spent the first years of his life in Pretoria and in Cologne, Germany. After attending the German School in Pretoria, Marius matriculated at the Bronkhorstspuit High School with several distinctions. Marius enjoyed a variety of sports and excelled in martial arts where he competed at the provincial and national levels for several years.

In 2000 Marius graduated MB ChB from the University of Pretoria and completed his internship at the Tambo Memorial Hospital in Boksburg. In 2001 he worked as a locum physician in a number of hospitals in the UK. During this time he made a substantial contribution to the lives of young people in a hospital of a Young Offenders Correctional Institution, where he was offered a permanent position. He decided, however, to return to South Africa to complete his community service at the Tambo Memorial Hospital, where he concentrated on paediatrics.

At the beginning of 2004, Marius was offered a permanent position in paediatrics at the Witbank Hospital where he became intensely involved in community paediatrics, and contributed significantly to the hospital's Kangaroo Mother Care training programme.

Marius died peacefully in his sleep on 18 May 2004 and will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved this wonderful human being and committed physician. We will remember his bright nature and enthusiasm for life, and how he gave so freely of himself to one and all, patients, colleagues and friends, regardless of race, colour or creed. To his parents and his sister we offer our deepest condolences.

*When we stop following the sun,
When our shadows lead us and no longer follow us,
When the beckoning darkness surrounds us and all the light dims away,
When our souls fold in on themselves,
When finally blackness takes control:
At that precise moment divinity opens our eyes and allows us to see,
Perhaps for the first time, the true beauty of that which we live every day
For only through true darkness shall we know true light.*

(Written by Marius in March 2004.)