



IN MEMORIAM

Daantjie Kritzinger

Dr Daantjie Kritzinger is onverwags op 1 November 2003 na 'n kort siekbed van 2 weke oorlede. Hy is op 29 September 1927 in Bloemfontein gebore en was sy ouers se enigste kind. Na sy laerskooldae in Ficksburg het hy sy hoërskool-loopbaan in Kroonstad afgesluit.

Hy het aan die einde van 1952 die MBChB-graad aan die Universiteit van Pretoria se mediese skool behaal. Hy het aktief deelgeneem aan baie universiteitsaktiwiteite en het op verskeie komitees gedien.

Na voltooiing van sy huisdoktersjaar aan Pretoria Algemene Hospitaal tree hy in die huwelik met Babsie du Plessis. Hulle vestig hulle in 'n algemene praktyk op Bloemhof, Wes-Transvaal, tot 1961. Hierna neem hy dr. Tom Venning se algemene praktyk in Pretoria oor, waar hy vir 'n hele paar jaar praktiseer. Hierna is hy vir 4 jaar deel van die Kankernavorsingseenheid van prof. G Falkson in Pretoria. Daarna verskuif hy na die Hoofkantoor van die Provinsiale Administrasie se Hospitaaldienste, waar hy vir 10 jaar as een van die direkteure belas met hospitaalaangeleenthede werk tot sy aftrede.

Hy was 'n uitstekende klinikus met 'n besondere diagnostiese en waarnemingsvermoë. Hy het 'n gawe gehad om mense aan te trek en vriende te maak, en het intens belang gestel in hul wel en wee. Daantjie het 'n besondere sin vir humor gehad en was 'n lojale kollega. Hy het sy profesie met ywer beoefen, was betrokke by sy kerk, en het as stokperdjie 'n besigheid en 'n boerdery bedryf.

Hy word oorleef deur sy vrou, Babsie, een seun, drie dogters en tien kleinkinders.

Henry R Shuttleworth

Werner Wittmann (14-11-1929 – 8-6-2004)



The community in George, Western Cape, recently mourned the loss of Dr W 'Whitey' Wittmann, a much admired paediatrician of that town. His skills and dedication were legendary, originating in the early 1960s at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital.

He was born in Namibia, went to school in Paarl and studied medicine at UCT.

While training in paediatrics he soon established a reputation as an excellent, caring and hard-working doctor. At the time the hospital was new and rapid advances were occurring in the diagnosis and treatment of sick children and neonates. Whitey soon became adept at managing

emergency cases and was frequently called on by junior and senior staff to assist with difficult procedures.

At a South African Medical Association congress in the early 1960s he demonstrated some of these in a South Africa's first-ever televised broadcast from the hospital to the delegates gathered at the UCT campus.

On completion of his training, he joined the CSIR/UCT Clinical Nutrition Unit (Professor J F Brock). His projects included investigation of the causes and effects of diarrhoea and malnutrition on the health and development of children. A follow-up field trial on the Cape Flats, funded by the World Health Organisation, was undertaken with an experienced social worker, Aileen Moodie. The project involved daily travel among the poorest sections of the community. It established that where poor housing, education and family dynamics were rife, low income per head per day determined the onset of malnutrition. For this and other projects he was awarded the MD(UCT) degree and he presented his findings at local and international meetings.

His empathy and unique ability to communicate with children and families at all levels made him a very vital member of the research unit.

After leaving Red Cross Hospital, Whitey joined the nutrition section of the Department of Health in Pretoria. There he led the project for the vitamin enrichment of maize to prevent pellagra and also to obtain official approval for the national marketing of margarine. There was strong opposition from the agricultural sector which had to be dealt with and overcome.

The next move was to George in 1973 to resume clinical work, his main interest, and over the years he won great respect for his skill and dedication. After his retirement from private practice in George, he joined the staff of the George Provincial Hospital as a full time paediatrician.

Whitey had a warm personality, was straight and direct and much loved by his family and friends. His wife Magda was a great support and her devotion during his last stressful months in an ICU was an impressive example of this. Our condolences go out to Magda, the children and grandchildren.

J Hansen and J du T Zaaizman

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