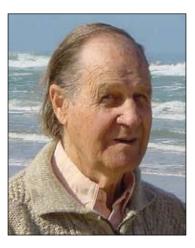


SAMJ FORUM

IN MEMORIAM



Johan Gerber

Dr. Johan Gerber is op 4 September 2008 op 79jarige ouderdom aan 'n koronêre trombose op Oudtshoorn oorlede.

Johan Abraham Gerber is op 12 November 1928 op Wolmaransstad gebore en was die vyfde van ses kinders. Hy was eers op Warrenton op skool, maar toe hy 10 jaar oud was, is sy vader oorlede en het sy

oudste suster, Johanna, wat in Johannesburg gewoon het, hom daar grootgemaak.

Hy was 'n briljante student en het kort voor sy 16de verjaardag aan die Helpmekaar Hoër Seunskool gematrikuleer en voor sy 22ste verjaardag, in 1950, as mediese dokter aan die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand gekwalifiseer. Hy moes 'n paar maande tot sy 22ste verjaardag wag voor hy as dokter kon registreer aangesien 'n mediese dokter op daardie stadium volgens wet 22 jaar oud moes wees.

Nadat hy aanvanklik vir die Kamer van Mynwese gewerk het, eers in die voormalige Noord-Rhodesië en later in Johannesburg, het hy in 1964 by die Chris Hani / Baragwanath Hospitaal begin spesialiseer in narkose. In 1966 verwerf hy die graad FFA (SA). Daarna het hy as konsultant by die hospitaal gewerk, en tesame met professor Hilde Ginsburg die departement uitgebou tot 'n gerespekteerde, hoog aangeskrewe eenheid. Na die vertrek van professor Ginsberg was hy waarnemende hoof totdat hy in 1980 bedank het en die privaatpraktyk betree het.

Hy het tot 1993 in Johannesburg gepraktiseer totdat hy finaal afgetree het en in Ferndale, Randburg gaan woon het. In 1997 het hy Oudtshoorn toe getrek en daar gebly tot met sy afsterwe. Johan was 'n stil, intense mens, en 'n perfeksionis. Hy was intellektueel ingesteld en het sy vakgebied wetenskaplik beoefen. Hy was nou betrokke by die opleiding van narkotiseurs en het hulle geïnspireer met sy akademiese benadering. Hy was sekretaris van die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging van Narkotiseurs vir 10 jaar – vanaf 1968 tot 1978.

Ons innige simpatie gaan uit na sy lewenslange metgesel, die bekende kunstenaar Thijs Nel, en sy enigste oorlewende suster Elise.

Met dank ook aan die *Hoorn* plaaslike koerant op Oudtshoorn.

J Maritz



Jerome John Peter Bosman

Dr Jerome Bosman was born in Mt Ayliff on 1 December 1949 and died in Kokstad on 28 July 2008.

Jerome completed his schooling at St Aidan's Preparatory College, Grahamstown in 1968. He obtained the BSc degree in 1972 and MB ChB in 1977 from the University

of Stellenbosch, where in 1976 he was elected as Head of House (Primarius) of Hippokrates Men's Residence and Executive Chairman, University of Stellenbosch Clinic Welfare Organisation.

He obtained a Diploma in Anaesthetics from the College of Medicine (SA) in 1981, and certification in Ultrasound (1996) and Advanced Diabetes Management (1998). He completed his internship in 1978-79 and an extra year rotating through various departments at Frere Hospital, East London, followed by 1 year as a medical officer at Amcoal (Anglo American), Witbank, in 1980. He completed 2 years (1982, 1983) as an anaesthetics registrar at Johannesburg Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand, followed by 1 year as a senior medical officer in ophthalmology at Greenwich District Hospital, London.

He returned to South Africa in 1984 to enter rural private practice in Kokstad, combining this with part-time medical officer sessions at the local EG and Usher Memorial Hospital.

He remained in practice until ill health forced him to resign in July 2007.

Jerome received the Anglo American Vocational Scholarship for Medicine from 1974 to 1977. In 1979 he was awarded the Rotary Study Exchange Scholarship to the UK. He participated actively in politics, serving as Chairperson of the Progressive Federal Party of SA, Kokstad, and subsequently the Democratic Party of SA. He was the Founder and Chairperson of the St Patrick's College Independent School Development Committee, Kokstad. The main sports field at the school was named the 'Jerome Bosman Oval' in November 2007. Jerome and his partners played an active role in establishing the Kokstad Private Hospital, which was opened in 2005. His active farming interests and being on his beautiful farm outside Kokstad provided excellent respite for him away from the rigours of medical practice.

Jerome was a competent and caring doctor whose untimely death leaves a large void in the medical services to the people of Kokstad, East Griqualand and his many faithful patients from the former Transkei. Being fluent in Xhosa added to

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Jerome's large medical practice. He was a kind, dedicated and energetic doctor who had great passion for his work as a rural general practitioner. He had excellent communication skills and was a very good listener. He paid great attention to detail and excelled when managing really ill patients. He had a flair for anaesthesia and it was reassuring having him in theatre or the wards to provide guidance and assistance in managing difficult problems. He was skilled at diagnostic ultrasound, which added an important and valuable dimension to the provision of quality services for the region.

Jerome was diagnosed with a large pituitary tumour (macroadenoma) in March 2006 followed by two partially successful endonasal trans-sphenoidal decompressions and radiotherapy. During March/April 2007 Jerome developed a personality change and non-specific neurological symptoms. A CT scan showed a large tumour in the left temporal lobe which was macroscopically removed and the histology confirmed an anaplastic grade 3 oligodendroglioma. Surgery was followed by chemo- and radiotherapy. After initial good progress Jerome became increasingly confused with episodes of aphasia. His condition deteriorated until he lapsed into coma on 25 July and passed away peacefully on 28 July.

Jerome married Michéle Leslee Oosthuysen in 1981 and they had 4 children – Piet, Mark, Paul and Mieke. All four children became head prefects at St Patrick's College, Kokstad.

Jerome was a great family man and believed in the concept of the family unit; the Bosmans' belief has always been that a family that prays together stays together. They are known for their hospitality and the farm has always been a wonderful and welcome haven for family and friends. Jerome received great support from his family throughout his professional career and the difficult last two years of his life. He bore his illness with great fortitude, strength and courage; his faith in God never waivered.

We salute a great husband, father, doctor, colleague and friend.

The inscription at his funeral reads: 'When the voice and the vision on the inside become more profound, clear and loud than the opinions on the outside, you have mastered your life' – Dr John F Demartini

Paul Hill

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