

IN MEMORIAM

**Benjamin Spangenberg
(1924 - 2011)**

Ben Spangenberg is op 9 Januarie 2011, op 86-jarige ouderdom, skielik oorlede as gevolg van 'n miokardiale infarksie. Hy het die laaste 21 jaar van sy lewe in Kokanje in Nylstroom (Modimolle) gewoon.

Ben is op 12 Julie 1924 in Paul Roux in die Vrystaat gebore, waar sy vader burgemeester was. Sy skoolloopbaan het begin in Kimberley, waar sy suster 'n verpleegsuster was. Hy matrikuleer in 1943 aan Grey Kollege in Bloemfontein.

Hy studeer aan die Universiteit van Pretoria en in 1949 behaal hy die MB ChB-graad – een van die tweede groep dokters wat aan hierdie inrigting die graad voltooi. Sy huisdokterjaar word verdeel tussen Duiwelskloof en Barberton, waarna hy die Diploma in Volksgesondheid met lof behaal voordat hy sy nagraadse studie in radiologie aan die Universiteit van Pretoria voortsit onder professor S F M Oosthuizen. Hy kwalifiseer in 1962 as radioloog en praktiseer daarna saam met drr. Chris Rabie en Willy Frank in Klerksdorp.

Later sluit dr. Hugo Hallatt, sy eertydse vennoot as algemene praktisyn in Petrusburg, asook drr. Piet Pieterse en Gerrit Bosman, by die praktyk aan. Uit hierdie praktyk het Ben se seun Albert, Chris Rabie se seun Jaap, Piet Pieterse se seun Willie, en Willy Frank se seun Jeremy hulle ook later as radioloë bekwaam.

Hierdie praktyk het 'n baie wye gebied bedien – radiologiese dienste vir privaat en staatspasiente in staats hospitale vanaf Klerksdorp tot Lichtenburg en Mafikeng in die noordweste, Wolmaransstad in die weste, en Potchefstroom en Carletonville in die ooste. Die buite-areas is minstens een keer per week besoek deur een van die vennote en die praktyk het ook radiologiese dienste verskaf aan Klerksdorp Provinsiale Hospitaal.

Ben praktiseer in Klerksdorp as privaat radioloog vanaf 1963 tot 1989, waarna hy aftree en verhuis na Kokanje by Nylstroom waar hy tot en met sy dood woon. Na sy aftrede – tot op 76-jarige ouderdom – het hy steeds voortgegaan om op 'n sessie-basis radiologiese dienste te verskaf aan die staats hospitale in Warmbad en Nylstroom.

Gedurende sy loopbaan het hy voortdurend 'n intense belangstelling in radiologie behou en het hy die geweldige groot tegnologiese ontwikkeling in die veld beleef, vanaf fluoroskopiese ondersoeke tot mammografie, sonografie, rekenaartomografie en MR. Dit was vir hom opwindend om elke keer die nuwe tegnologie te bemeester.

Hy was bekend vir sy belangstelling in motors en meganiese dinge en was ook aktief betrokke by die ontwerp en uitbreiding van X-straal afdelings in verskeie hospitale in die streek.

Sy positiewe benadering tot die lewe was 'n groot inspirasie vir baie en hy sal altyd onthou word vir sy opgeruimde geaardheid en kwinkslae. Een van baie gesegdes wat direk met sy beroep verband hou, was 'n aanhaling uit die aanhef van een van sy radiologie-handboeke: 'Many a diagnosis is missed, not by not knowing what is in the book, but by not taking a look.'

Hy was 'n legende in die radiologie-wêreld en 'n wonderlike groot boom wat 'n groot skadu gegooi het.

Hy is in 1950 getroud met Gertruida Petronella Gezina Snijman (Truida). Sy is op 43-jarige ouderdom oorlede aan kanker. Uit die huwelik is vier kinders gebore: Johan (chirurg, Welkom), Albert (radioloog, Pretoria), Linda (tandarts, Potchefstroom) en Ben (meganiese ingenieur, Secunda).

In 1971 is hy getroud met Helena Catharina Venter (Elna) in wie hy 'n hegte lewensmaat gehad het.

Vir ons sal sy nagedagtenis voortleef en was dit 'n voorreg om hom as eggenoot en vader te ken.

Johan Spangenberg, Albert Spangenberg, Linda du Toit, Ben Spangenberg en Elna Spangenberg

**William Sinclair Winship
(18/03/1927 - 14/07/2011)**

Bill Winship contributed to the health and welfare of children in KwaZulu-Natal for almost 50 years. Born and educated in Edinburgh, he moved to Cape Town in 1946. He graduated MB ChB (UCT) in 1953, and trained as a paediatrician in Durban. In 1964, he was awarded a CSIR Fellowship to study paediatric cardiology in Cape Town. Returning to Durban, he established the

paediatric cardiology service in KwaZulu-Natal. In 1971, he was appointed Principal Paediatrician at Addington Hospital.

He was drawn to research, publishing more than 50 articles. His most recent publication was in the *South African Medical Journal*.¹ When telling me about this, he quipped that it was nice to be productive at his age. His *Handbook of Genetic and Congenital Syndromes* was written specifically to provide a resource to health professionals in South Africa.

Beyond his clinical appointments, he was honorary medical specialist of the Board of Durban Child Welfare, where he chaired both the Advisory Committee for the Management of Child Abuse and Neglect, and the Adoption Committee, for two decades. He was respected internationally as the South African member for the Association of European Paediatric cardiologists.

He believed in the nexus of education and health, and was the inaugural chairman for TREE (training and resources for early education), which is now the largest organisation of its kind in South Africa.

The last chapter of his career was in genetics. Bill was an advocate for children with genetic disorders and was a founder member of SAIDA. He was also a founder member of the South African Society for Human Genetics, which honoured him in 2004 with the endowment of the Bill Winship SASHG Gold Medal for an outstanding trainee in clinical genetics.

Bill received many honours, including the Excellence in Service Award in 2000 and the College of Paediatrics Award in 2007. In April 2011, he received the Order of the Baobab in Silver.

Bill was married to Sonja for 55 years, had 4 children and 7 grandchildren. He spent his retirement playing lawn bowls and gardening, attracting more than 60 species of birds to his garden in Hillcrest.

He died peacefully on 14 July after a short illness. He is remembered as a warm and caring man who worked tirelessly for the children of KwaZulu-Natal. I am privileged not only to have worked with and learned from him, but to have had him as my father.

Ingrid Margaret Winship

1. Winship WS, Beighton P. Genetic disorders in the Indian community of South Africa. *S Afr Med J* 2011;101:481-484.