



Herbert Derman MD

May 22, 1921 - December 18, 2019

Herbert Derman, MD, intellectually curious patriarch died on December 18, 2019 in Philadelphia seeking a remedy to his chronic heart failure.

After a lifetime of scientific endeavors, professional leadership, world travels, and teaching, he lived independently at Cathedral Village, Philadelphia for the last five years. He maintained his life long passion for photography in spite of losing sight in one eye causing him to stop playing tennis at age ninety-two. Dr. Derman continued tending his Bonsai and roses. He served as an extraordinary connector with nieces, nephews, grandchildren and cousins via email and his ancestry research, long before Ancestry.com and computer research. He developed lifelong friends throughout the world and maintained the connections with their children through the decades.

Dr. Derman was born May 22, 1921 in Brooklyn, NY. He was the youngest son of Isador and Lillian (Schwartzberg) Derman, joining two brothers and a sister.

Dr. Derman is survived by three daughters; Jane Derman, Cape Cod; Ellyn Derman, Santa Fe; Letty Thall (Bruce), Philadelphia; six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren from his marriage to Mary Coughlin Derman. They divorced in 1978 and Mary died in 1982. He gained another daughter, Terry Knudsen (Keith), Atlanta, two grandsons, and three great grandchildren from his marriage to Gertrude Rahmstorf Felsen. She died in 2014.

He retired in 1990 as the Director of Pathology at Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, Ohio. He served as the Director of the City of Kingston Laboratory and chief pathologist for the two local hospitals in Kingston, NY from 1950-1976. Dr. Derman also held faculty positions at Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY and Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio.

At age sixteen he graduated from Erasmus Hall High School and left Brooklyn, NY for Louisiana State University, graduating in 1943 with a MD. He served two years in the Army Medical Corps, discharged as Captain in 1946. He completed his internship at the US Marine Hospital, Staten Island, NY and his residency at Veteran's Hospital, New Orleans, LA. He then spent a year as Assistant Pathologist at Maimonides Hospital, Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Derman served as a health consultant to hospitals, laboratories, state health

departments corporations, and countries. He established quality control standards for clinical laboratories and blood banks on state and national levels. His professional interests included laboratory systems, quality assurance, professional relations, and data processing. He received many awards for his professional leadership and authored thirty-two published medical articles.

Dr. Derman was a leader in many state, national, and international professional associations. From 1960-1996 he held leadership positions in the College of American Pathologists, including serving as President. His political savvy and vision established a lobbying office in Washington, DC to elevate the pathologists' voice.

He had a lifetime of civic engagement. Dr. Derman served on community boards in Kingston, NY. He proudly served as Captain of Wexford Tennis Club's Super Senior team and volunteered in medical and legal clinics in Hilton Head, SC.

A Celebration of Dr. Derman's life will be held at Cathedral Hall, Cathedral Village, 600 E. Cathedral Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19128, on April 17, 2020 from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Contributions in Dr. Derman's name may be made to either: Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., P.O. Box 97166, Washington, DC 20090-7166, Phone: 800-430-4907 and www.plannedparenthood.org., or LSU Foundation, 3796 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, Phone: 800-452-7928 and www.lsufoundation.org. Interment private. Condolences may also be sent to www.dinanfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Celebration of life

APR 17 (ET)

Cathedral Village
600 E. Cathedral Road
Philadelphia, PA 9128

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *In the midst of planning a cross country RV trip that will take us through Hilton Head, my mother, Lois Lansky Tatelman, wondered if Herb Derman still lived there. A quick internet search has brought me to this page. She and I read the contents of this site and shared some memories together.*

Herb Derman and my father Herb Lansky were colleagues and great friends. They both exided a sense of curiosity and tenacity. Their friendship was such that as a young woman traveling, I would call home collect person to person requesting to speak with Dr Derman. Je was my code name for my parents to call me back, which at that time was a cost savings.

My thoughts and prayers are with the Derman family and his many colleagues. May his memory be for a blessing.

Debbie Lansky Waitkus - September 05, 2020 at 04:02 AM

JD

Dear Debbie and Lois, We would love to stay in touch with you both - we wanted to reach out but we could not find a current address or email for Lois. Our Dad's relationship was so special and unique and my Dad treasured it always. We had hoped to have a memorial service for him in April 2020 and we have now postponed it until May 2022. Please stay in touch. Love, Janie (janederman1@gmail.com)

Jane Derman - August 09, 2021 at 10:14 AM

DJ

“ *My condolences to the Derman family. My fondest memories of Herb were during two visits with his daughter (and long-time friend) Ellyn at his Hilton Head home. He and his wife Trudy were very hospitable and the conversation was always lively!*

Debra Jacobson

Debra Jacobson - February 01, 2020 at 01:33 PM

NY

“ *My Condolences to the Derman Family. I only met Herb when he was a mere 97 years young ...but he had such a youthful spark to his personality... full of intelligence and humor. One cannot underestimate the influence Herb had on the practice of Pathology as president of the College of American Pathologists. He was one of the greats and it has been such an honor to have met him and to have gotten to know his remarkable daughters. Nancy Young*



Nancy Young - January 27, 2020 at 11:10 AM

TV

I think only a Pathologist could refer to a spectrophotometer as "elegant"!

Tony Vaillancourt - January 29, 2020 at 08:34 AM

TV

“ *To the Derman family and friends:*

It is because of the efforts of Dr. Derman that the nation's laboratories have the voice they now do. He has led the way in practice, standardization and most importantly, self-governance! It is a shame he is no longer with us, but as Jane told me "he went into his procedure knowing full well the potential ramifications." It seems to me that is the way he led his whole life. So now we reflect on his legacy of family, friends and the prolific professional work he left us as a beacon to the future. On behalf of lab staff all over the country, past, present and future; Thank you Dr. Derman; we can see our future a little brighter because we were able to stand on your shoulders.

-Tony Vaillancourt

Tony Vaillancourt - January 27, 2020 at 08:54 AM