



Raymond Kaufman, MD
November 10, 2010

Dr. Raymond Kaufman, MD died on November 25, 2010 in Houston, TX at age 85. Dr. Kaufman's undergraduate years were spent at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. In 1948 he graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, with a Doctor of Medicine degree. After a rotating internship he completed a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Beth Israel Hospital in New York City followed by a fellowship in Gynecologic Pathology in Houston, TX.

In 1956, he began what was to be a 48-year career at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. Baylor offered him the opportunity to practice both obstetrics/gynecology and pathology, and he remained active in both fields throughout his career. Because of Dr. Kaufman's academic excellence, he rapidly advanced through the academic ranks, and served as both Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Professor of Pathology for more than 30 years. In 1969 he became Acting Chair at Baylor and assumed the permanent position in 1973. In 1992 he relinquished that post to devote more time to research. He remained Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor until his death.

Dr. Kaufman had a most distinguished academic career. In addition to more than 250 peer-reviewed publications and 70 book chapters, he served as Principal Investigator on 28 National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants and contracts. His unique talents and skills earned him many honors including both the Distinguished Scientific Achievement and Lifetime Achievement awards of the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, and the outstanding Obstetrician/Gynecologist in Texas Award. He served on the Executive Council of the International Society for the Study of Vulvar Disease for more than 20 years, and served as its President in 1979. He made major contributions to American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Central Association. He was elected to membership in the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1979 and remained active in its successor organization, AGOS.

But there was so much more to Dr. Kaufman than his academic and clinical achievements. Nothing ever seemed to dampen his lively personality, his playful wit or his sparkling eyes. Those of us who were lucky enough to work with him will never forget his telephone calls in the middle of winter extolling the weather

in Houston, or his always understated but often hilarious pronouncements about a group dinner, or boring meeting.

Even after a bout of paralytic polio left him with major disabilities that, in a less resourceful person, might have resulted in a sedentary life, Dr. Kaufman continued to practice Gynecology and Pathology, administer a large Department, and run multiple NIH grants. He attended national and international meetings regularly, and was always ready to lend a supportive comment or a well thought-out and gentlemanly criticism.

Dr. Kaufman could not have achieved so much without the loving support of his wife of 64 years, Patricia (Pat). She was always by his side serving as the legs and strength he needed. In addition to Pat, he is survived by his four daughters and many grand- and great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Ken Noller, MD