

We are very saddened to report that our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Rodney Appell, died on Tuesday, January 19, 2009 at his home in Houston, Texas, at the age of 61, apparently due to an acute cardiac event.

Rod grew up in Philadelphia and earned his undergraduate degree at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. He attended medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, and went on to complete his residency training in urology at Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Appell served on the faculty at Louisiana State University in New Orleans, and then spent many years practicing at the Cleveland Clinic. He moved to Houston in 2000, joining the faculty of the Scott Department of Urology at Baylor College of Medicine. This past year, he moved to the Vanguard Urologic Institute in Houston, serving as Director of the Texas Continence Center, while continuing to serve as a urology volunteer faculty member for both Baylor College of Medicine, and University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He authored well over 150 publications in urology, and received countless honors for his professional contributions, being listed on numerous occasions in Best Doctors in America, and recently receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for Urodynamics and Female Urology (SUFU).

Dr. Appell was an extraordinary teacher and mentor, having trained countless students, residents and fellows in the art and science of caring for patients with voiding dysfunction and incontinence.

Rod is survived by his wife, Susan, and his sons, Jarett and Gordon and daughter-in-law Jennifer of New York City. Rod's untimely death leaves a great void for his family and his colleagues. He will be remembered for his seriousness of purpose, his directness in his personal interactions, and for his limitless love for his family, his friends, and his work.

The Memorial Service for Rod was held at Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood, in Houston, at 2pm on Wednesday, January 21, 2009. A lasting memorial to Dr. Appell will be established through the Society for Urodynamics and Female Urology (SUFU); for contributions, please note "In Memory of Rodney Appell, M.D.", and send to SUFU, at 1100 E. Woodfield Rd., Suite 520, Schaumburg IL 60173.

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