



Bernard Harold Zeavin

November 3, 1926 - October 25, 2022

Dr. Bernard H. Zeavin was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba he received his M.D. degree from the University of Manitoba and interned at the Winnipeg General Hospital. He then left Canada for good, spending 5 years in Boston at Harvard and at the Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary specializing in Ophthalmology. As long as he could remember, Dr. Zeavin wanted to be a doctor stating "I dreamed of producing health and life when I was a kid." He believed knowledge was power. In medical school he established an early track record of success. He won 2 medals in Medical School, one of which was the coveted Gold Medal of Medicine and in 1950 he was one of four students to graduate with honors. Later he received a fellowship in Ophthalmic Research at Harvard where he wrote a paper with a Nobel Prize winner Dr. George Wald educating people on Retinitis Pigmentosa. (Rod and cone vision in Retinitis Pigmentosa) After spending 2 years as a Captain in the U.S. Army at Fort Dix, N.J., he came to Alexandria, VA where he established The Eye Center. His business consisted of his own Optical Shop and a staff of 20 professionals. He formed the Eye Dept. at Alexandria Hospital, and became its first Chairman. To maintain his competitive edge he underwent total retraining in his 50's in modern micro surgery to perform the latest ophthalmic techniques in cataract surgery and laser procedures. Dr. Zeavin was the first ophthalmologist in Virginia to hold the certification in cataract and implant surgery from the American Board of Eye Surgery. He was one of the first in Virginia to do "No Stitch" cataract surgery.

He had guest lecture status at various medical forums such as George Washington University School of Medicine and Senior Attending at the Washington Hospital Center. He organized, chaired and spoke at continuing education programs held in places from Virginia, Washington D.C., to taking a month off from his busy practice participating in CARE-Medico performing eye surgery on people in Algiers. He was a regular guest on radio discussing advances in eye care.

He served as President of many organizations including the Northern Virginia Academy of Ophthalmology, the Virginia Society of Ophthalmology, the Bailey's Crossroads Rotary Club, and the Virginia State Society among others. He was Chairman of the Polio Plus USA Immunization Program, Fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, Benefactor of the Virginia Tech Foundation, member of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and on the board of the Capital Cotillion Club. He had many honors some of which are being a Kentucky Colonel in 1997 and awarded the Rotary Foundation District Service Award.

He served as Rotary District Governor in Virginia, speaking to all 78 Rotary Clubs while forming 11 new rotary clubs during his Rotary career. He was a member of the National Press Club & the Harvard Club. He was married for 34 years and survived by his 4 children Dr. Gerald Zeavin, Bradford Zeavin, Jill Robin (Zeavin) Payne and Dr. Spencer Zeavin, and their spouses. He has 5 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, a sister, Beverly. One of Dr. Zeavin's grandson is a 5th generation doctor.

Dr. Zeavin was a wonderful father believing the best education is learning from people face to face; so twice a year he took his family to different countries or states to be 'with the people.

After retirement he took up Ballroom Dancing reaching Gold status where a friend recalls an attendant telling him, "You have the moves, man!" That he did.

A memorial service will be held at Bethel Hebrew Congregation on Friday, October 28, 2022 at 4PM. A graveside service will be held to honor Dr. Zeavin's military service at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Drive
Arlington, VA 22211

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **28**. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Beth El Hebrew Congregation
3830 Seminary Road
Alexandria , VA 22304

Tribute Wall



“ *I purchased Dr. ZEAVIN's practice. My experience with him represents his character. He is a kind and classy. He had so many employees in the practice despite slowing down. I asked why. He replied that they're my family and D I can't let them go. He was always happy to see the practice grow. I always appreciated his kindness and wisdom. He will be missed.*

*Ayman Boutros, MD.
Medical director
The Eye Center*

Ayman Boutros, MD - October 28, 2022 at 12:01 PM



“ *Bernard Harold Zeavin*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM

CP

To the family of Dr. Barnard Zeavin:

I came to know Dr. Z. when he participated in many Harvard Club activities prior to 2016. He was a fine gentleman and I always enjoyed talking to him and meeting one of his sons.

I was astounded by the number of different ladies he brought to our events before he began bringing Betty, I think. Subsequently I learned that the ladies were all his devoted dance partners. When I told Dr. Zeavin that I went to dancing school for years and yet had remained a terrible dancer, he took me in hand and whisked me about the law offices where we hold our events. I was an immediate sensation and realized that ballroom dancing is a lot like tennis. A better partner makes you look like a whiz on the dance floor. (I should say my husband attended the same school and is no Fred Astaire.) In any case, Dr. Zeavin promised to form the Harvard Club's Dancing Group but alas, I could never find an appropriate venue and so we never got very far.

In any case, I am sorry not to have seen him in recent years but have only the fondest memories and wonderful associations with him.

May his memory serve as a blessing.

On behalf of the Harvard Club community I wish to extend our deepest sympathy to his extended family.

Regards, Caren

=====

Caren Pauley AM '68, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Harvard Club of Washington DC

3220 N Street NW #295, Washington DC 20007

202-337-1300 telephone

Caren Pauley - October 29, 2022 at 07:05 PM