

ROSOMOFF, Hubert L., M.D., D.Med.Sc., world-renowned neurological surgeon and researcher, a giant in the world of academic Medicine, Neurological Surgery and Research, died on June 5th, 2008. He was 81.

He was the son of Morris Rosomoff of Kiev, Russia and the former Caroline Green of Philadelphia. Born in Philadelphia, and obtained a B.A. in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Rosomoff obtained his M.D. degree from Hahnemann Medical College. He completed a neurological surgery residency at both the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and the Neurological Institute of New York. He was a consultant from the United States to the Institute for Artificial Hibernation and Resuscitation in Moscow, U.S.S.R. Dr. Rosomoff returned to the Neurological Institute in 1957 to complete training and in 1960, obtained a D.Med.Sc. Degree in Physiology from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He served as a Surgeon and Research Physiologist in the U.S. Navy, rising to the rank of Lt. Commander. In 1956, Dr. Rosomoff earned the American Academy of Neurological Surgery Award for his groundbreaking research into hypothermia. In 1959, Dr. Rosomoff joined the faculty of the University Of Pittsburg School Of Medicine as Clinical Assistant Professor, and Chief of Neurological Surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital. He remained at the University of Pittsburgh until 1966, when he became Professor and the youngest Chairman in history at the prestigious Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. In 1971, Dr. Rosomoff became Professor and the first Chairman of the newly autonomous Department of Neurological Surgery at the University Of Miami School Of Medicine.

Dr. Rosomoff became recognized as a world authority in many areas such as pain and its treatment and the development of the radiological criteria which led to the present day interpretations of CAT-scans and MRIs. In 1974, he founded the University of Miami's Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center. He served as its Medical Director, and his wife Renee Rosomoff as Programs Director. In 1994, he became Professor and Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Neurological Surgery, to devote fulltime effort to the Pain Center, which was then established as a Center of Excellence by the University of Miami. In 2003 the Center was renamed in their honor and is now known as the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center now located at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital.

He helped to found numerous National and International Pain Societies and he served as President of the American Pain Society, American Academy of Pain Medicine, and the Southern Pain Society. Dr. Rosomoff helped to develop the specialty of Pain Medicine, which has been recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties. He was selected by the governor to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Florida Pain Commission. Along with his wife and Co-director, Renee Rosomoff, he helped to develop pain rehabilitation centers and hospitals in Colombia, Peru, India, Israel, and Egypt. A pain treatment center in Cali, Colombia bears his name, Clinica Especializada de Columna Rosomoff.

He passed away on June 5, 2008, with his loving wife, Renee, his sons, Richard and Peter, step-daughter Cathy and sister-in-law, Gigi at his side. He was dearly loved by his grandchildren Sarah and Jake, his extended family of sisters and brothers-in-law, cousins, nieces, nephews, his Pain Team family and all who knew him.

The family requests that donations in honor of Dr. Rosomoff be made to the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center at Douglas Gardens, 5200 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33137 and The University of Miami Hubert Rosomoff Endowment Lectureship Fund, c/o University of Miami Department of Neurological Surgery, Attention: Education Program Manager The Lois Pope LIFE Center, 1095 N.W. 14th Terrace, Locator D4-6, Miami, Florida 33136.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday June 8, 2008 at 12:00 noon at the Levitt-Weinstein Memorial Chapel; 18840 W. Dixie Highway; North Miami Beach, Florida 33180. Following the funeral services, shiva will commence at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital; 5200 N.E. 2nd Avenue; Miami, Florida 33137 in the Ruby Auditorium. Shiva will also be held the following two days at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Hubert L. Rosomoff from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

BLASBERG-RUBIN-ZILBERT

(305) 538-6371

Hubert L. Rosomoff, Pioneer in Treatment of Pain

Hubert L. Rosomoff, M.D., D.Med.Sc., world-respected neurological surgeon and researcher, who pioneered the multidisciplinary treatment of chronic pain, died on June 5th, 2008. He was 81.

He was the son of Morris Rosomoff of Kiev, Russia and the former Caroline Green of Philadelphia. Born in Philadelphia, Dr. Rosomoff attended Clara Barton School and Olney High School. From 1945 to 1946, he was enrolled in the Pennsylvania Maritime Academy. He attended the University of Pennsylvania where he obtained a B.A. in Chemistry in 1948.

Dr. Rosomoff entered Hahnemann Medical College in 1948, obtaining his M.D. degree in 1952. From 1954-1959 he completed a neurological surgery residency at both the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and the Neurological Institute of New York. At the Neurological Institute of New York, Dr. Rosomoff began his ground-breaking research into hypothermia which earned him the American Academy of Neurological Surgery Award in 1956. He was a consultant from the United States to the Institute for Artificial Hibernation and Resuscitation in Moscow, U.S.S.R. Dr. Rosomoff returned to the Neurological Institute in 1957 to complete training and in 1960, obtained a D.Med.Sc. Degree in Physiology from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. During this time, he helped introduce hypothermia clinically as an adjunct to the neurosurgery of vascular lesions, and the treatment of brain injuries. While still a resident, Dr. Rosomoff was a guest lecturer at the Royal Society of Medicine, London, and received invitations to the opening plenary session of The First International Congress of Neurological Surgery in Brussels, Belgium.

In 1954, Dr. Rosomoff was commissioned a lieutenant in the U.S.Navy. He served as a Surgeon and Research Physiologist, eventually rising to the rank of Lt. Commander. Stationed at the Naval Medical Research Institute in Bethesda, Dr. Rosomoff continued his research in hypothermia along with hospital duties in Neurology. He served on active duty until 1957, and remained in a reserve capacity until 1963.

In 1959, Dr. Rosomoff joined the faculty of the University Of Pittsburg School Of Medicine as Clinical Assistant Professor, and Chief of Neurological Surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital. He remained at the University of Pittsburgh until 1966, when he became Professor and the youngest Chairman in history at the prestigious Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

Over his many years of practice and research, Dr. Rosomoff became recognized as a world authority on pain and its treatment. He pioneered investigation of hypothermia for intracranial vascular surgery and developed techniques of cryosurgery. The first to use lasers in brain surgery, he also introduced several innovative surgical procedures for the spine, including the technique of radiofrequency percutaneous cordotomy. Dr. Rosomoff also helped to develop the radiological criteria which led to the present day interpretations of CAT-scans and MRIs.

In 1971, Dr. Rosomoff was recruited to become Professor and the first Chairman of the newly autonomous Department of Neurological Surgery at the University Of Miami School Of Medicine. During his long tenure, the Department became nationally recognized for its innovative techniques and the outstanding quality of its faculty. He also served as Professor of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation and Anesthesiology at the UM. Under his leadership, Dr. Rosomoff helped bring together the team and resources that advanced to become the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, which has gone on to become an Institute of Neuroscience at the UM.

In 1974, Dr. Rosomoff founded the University of Miami's Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center. He served as its Medical Director, and his wife Renee Rosomoff as Programs Director. In 1994, Dr. Rosomoff stepped aside to become Professor and Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Neurological Surgery, to devote fulltime effort to the Pain Center, which was then established as a Center of Excellence by the University of Miami, and now known as the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center. In 2003, the Center was renamed the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center (RCPC) in their honor. In 2004, the Center moved to its present location at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital. The Center has become the world model for multidisciplinary pain treatment programs, successfully treating over 34,000 patients. In 2007, the American Pain Society honored the RCPC as one of its first national "Centers of Excellence."

During his stellar career, Dr. Rosomoff guided many professional organizations. He helped found the International Association for the Study of Pain, the American Pain Society, and the Eastern Pain Society. He served as President of the American Pain Society, American Academy of Pain Medicine, and the Southern Pain Society. Dr. Rosomoff was prominent in the effort to develop the specialty of Pain Medicine, which has been recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties. He was selected by the governor to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Florida Pain Commission. Along with his wife and Co-director, Renee Steele Rosomoff, he helped to develop pain rehabilitation centers and hospitals in Colombia, Peru, India, Israel, and Egypt. A pain treatment center in Cali, Colombia bears his name, Clinica Especializada de Columna Rosomoff.

Among the many prestigious awards Dr. Rosomoff received were the American Pain Society's "Distinguished Service Award," the Jeremiah J. Fix Award in Rehabilitation, the Philipp M. Lippe Award from the American Academy of Pain Medicine and the Claude Pepper Award for development of the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center. Dr. Rosomoff was honored with a "Life Achievement Award" from the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and in 1997 he was named "Alumnus of the Year" by his medical school at Hahnemann University. He was the author of over 300 books and articles, and editor of several journals. Dr. Rosomoff was a member of numerous professional organizations an international guest lecturer, and consultant.

Dr. Rosomoff died at his home in Miami Beach. He is survived by his wife, Renee. He is also survived by Elaine, the Mother of his sons Richard (partner Judith) of Los Angeles, California; Peter (Janine) of St. Louis, Missouri; grandchildren Sarah and Jake of St. Louis, Missouri; and step-daughter Cathy (Craig) Cook of Winter Park, Florida.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday June 8, 2008 at twelve noon in the Levitt-Weinstein Chapel; 18840 W. Dixie Highway; North Miami Beach, Florida 33180. Following the funeral services, shiva will commence at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital; 5200 N.E. 2nd Avenue; Miami, Florida 33137 in the Ruby Auditorium. Shiva will also be held the following two days at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Hubert L. Rosomoff , 250 West San Marino Drive; Miami Beach 33139, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The family requests that donations in honor of Dr. Rosomoff be made to the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center at Douglas Gardens, 5200 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33137 and The University of Miami Hubert Rosomoff Endowment Lectureship Fund, c/o University of Miami Department of Neurological Surgery, Attention: Education Program Manager The Lois Pope LIFE Center, 1095 N.W. 14th Terrace, Locator D4-6, Miami, Florida 33136.

Death of Hubert L. Rosomoff, M.D., D.Med.Sc.

It is with profound grief that the staff of the Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center announces the death of our co-founder and beloved Medical Director, Hubert L. Rosomoff, M.D., D.Med.Sc.

Dr. Rosomoff passed away peacefully at his home on Miami Beach on June 5, 2008. We mourn the loss of our dear friend, colleague, mentor, and constant source of inspiration. We also send our thoughts and prayers to his wife, Renee Rosomoff, his children, grandchildren, and his great circle of family and friends

“Dr. R,” as he was affectionately called by his cherished staff, was the Chairman Emeritus of the UM Department of Neurological Surgery. In 1971 he was recruited to become Professor and first Chairman of the newly autonomous Department of Neurological Surgery at the UM School of Medicine. His accomplishments during his long career literally fill the pages of many books, included his pioneering research in hypothermia, cryosurgery, innovative techniques for spine and brain surgery. He was the first to apply the laser to the surgery of the nervous system. Dr. Rosomoff also helped to develop the radiological criteria which led to the present day interpretations of CAT-scans and MRIs. He helped bring together the team and resources that became the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis.

In 1974, Dr. Rosomoff founded the University of Miami’s Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center. He served as its Medical Director and Renee Rosomoff as Programs Director. The program now bears their name—The Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain Center (RCPC). It has become the world model for multidisciplinary pain treatment programs, having successfully treated over 34,000 patients. The UM recognized the RCPC as a Center of Excellence, and in 2007 the American Pain Society honored the RCPC as one of its first national “Centers of Excellence.”

Besides his many awards and accomplishments, Dr. Rosomoff will perhaps be best remembered for his personal concern for the development of his students—many of whom have gone on to stellar careers of their own. He had the extraordinary gift to recognize the ability and encourage the development of other people. He earned the love of thousands of patients to whom he brought relief and hope. He was admired by his associates and scientific colleagues for his high ideals and unfaltering courage.

All of us at the RCPC and the University he so loved, have been enriched by his life. We can never fill his shoes, but we can vow to walk forever in his footsteps.

HUBERT L. ROSOMOFF, M.D.

*The Rosomoff Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation center,
South Shore Hospital,
Miami, U.S.A.*



HUBERT ROSOMOFF interned at Hahnemann Hospital, 1952-1953, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center for General Surgery and Neurological Surgery at the Neurological Institute of New York, 1954-1959. There he began his research in hypothermia which earned him The American Academy of Neurological Surgery Award in 1956. He was stationed at the United States Naval Hospital and the Naval Medical Research Institute in Bethesda where research in hypothermia continued along with hospital duties in Neurology. He was consultant from the United States to The Institute for Artificial Hibernation and Resuscitation in Moscow, U.S.S.R. He returned to the Neurological Institute in 1957 to complete training in 1959, adding a D. Med. Sci. in Physiology from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1960. During this time, hypothermia was introduced clinically as an adjunct to the neurosurgery of vascular lesions, and the treatment of brain injuries. While still a resident, he was a guest lecturer at The Royal Society of Medicine, London, and participated, by invitation, in the opening plenary session of The First International Congress of Neurological Surgery in Brussels, Belgium. After training, Dr. Rosomoff went to the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine as Clinical Assistant Professor and Chief of Neurological Surgery at The Veterans Administration Hospital. He remained at the University of Pittsburgh from 1959 to 1966, leaving with the rank of Clinical Associate Professor to become Professor and Chairman at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

The University of Miami Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center was established by Dr. Rosomoff in 1974. He was the founding Medical Director and has continued to be Director through his tenure as chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery until the present. Dr. Rosomoff stepped aside to become Chairman and Professor Emeritus of the Department in 1994 to devote fulltime effort to the Pain Center, which was then established as a Center of Excellence by the University of Miami. He further has served as Vice Chairman of the State of Florida Pain Management Commission, 1995 to the present. He served on the Executive Council of the AANS Section on Pain, 1989-1993. From 1971 to 1994, he was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery at The University of Miami, School of Medicine.

He is now Professor and Chairman Emeritus and Medical Director of the Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation center. HE is the author of 250 published articles or books, editor of several journals, and is Founder of two American and one international Pain Societies. He has been prominent in the effort to develop the specialty of Pain Medicine which has been recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties. It should also be noted that during his tenure as Chairman, the Neurosurgical Research Laboratories advanced to become the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis which has gone on to become an Institute of Neuroscience for the University of Miami.