Mitchell Friedman, MD

Dr. Friedman, a member of P&T’s editorial board since January 2002, died in June 2003 after a heart attack following surgery. He was just 58 years old.

He was born on September 26, 1944, in Brooklyn, New York. After receiving his medical degree from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, he completed an internship at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, a residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, and a National Institutes of Health (NIH) fellowship in the Division of Pulmonary Diseases at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami Beach.

At the time of his death, Dr. Friedman was the Edward G. Schlieder Educational Foundation Professor of Pulmonary Diseases at Tulane University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, where he also served as Program Director of the NIH Clinical Research Curriculum Award Program and Director of the Master of Public Health in Clinical Research Degree Program. He was Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Section of Pulmonary Diseases, Critical Care, and Environmental Medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine and Professor in the departments of Environmental Health Sciences and Epidemiology at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. He also served as Associate Program Director of the Tulane/Louisiana State University NIH General Clinical Research Center.

Dr. Friedman focused his research interests on lung cell biology, phospholipid metabolism and transmembrane signaling, mechanisms of environmental injury to lung cells, and the molecular mechanism of lung cancer. His areas of clinical research included investigations in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, and smoking cessation. He published more than 200 articles, books, and book reviews on these topics.

A Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Chest Physicians, Dr. Friedman served on numerous professional committees, panels, and advisory boards. In addition to his role with P&T, he served on the editorial board of eMedicine–Medicine and Surgery. He was most recently honored by the American Lung Association of Louisiana with the “Breath of Life” award for his Section.

He is survived by his wife, Ina Meredith, and his two children, Philip Alan and Daniel Edward.

A memorial fund has been established:

Dr. Mitchell Friedman Memorial Fund
c/o Pulmonary Diseases, Critical Care and Environmental Medicine
1430 Tulane Avenue, Suite 9
New Orleans, LA 70012