



Editorial

Norman Goldstein MD
Editor, *Hawaii Medical Journal*

Thomas Joseph Whelan, Jr. MD (1921-1999)

Hawaii has been very fortunate to have had the knowledge, experience, and teachings of Tom Whelan for 30 of his 78 years. I was fortunate to have met Tom at an American College of Physicians meeting in San Francisco in 1964. Dr. Mel Chetlin, Chief of Cardiology at Tripler, asked me, as Assistant Chief of Dermatology at Tripler at the time, to meet Colonel Whelan and help convince him to come to Tripler. It didn't take much arm twisting to entice Tom to transfer from Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington DC to Tripler General Hospital.

The rest is history, some of it detailed in this Special Memorial Issue of the Journal with admiration and aloha by his former students, residents, and associates: Bradley Wong MD, Peter Barcia MD, Emmett Aluli MD, Colonel Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee MD.

Tom Whelan had a phenomenal career in the military, and in civilian/university as well. He was an administrator and a teacher *par excellence*. He helped us bridge the Town & Gown and the military and civilian elements of medicine in Hawaii and the Pacific.

Tom and Norma were blessed with six children (see the family photo on page 309). Daughters Christal, Sharon and Sally share in their love and affection for their Dad in their remembrances and the Eulogy. As Sharon says, her Dad was a real "Mensch." Mahalo for sharing your husband and father with us.

One man can make a difference in our world. Tom Whelan was that man.

The Mamiya Medical Heritage Center

Richard Mamiya MD is another outstanding man who continues to make a difference in Hawaii Medicine.

Thanks to a major contribution from Richard, The Hawaii Medical Library has established a Heritage Center including a Repository for Rare Books; The Archives of the Hawaii Medical Association; Honolulu County Medical Society artifacts and instruments, "oral histories," a photo collection; and files of over 2,500 physicians who have or are currently practicing in Hawaii.

Since the Journal is not able to publish Special Memorial Issues for every worthy physician, the Heritage Center wants to expand its files, and will be contacting you soon for your biography, photos, tapes, etc. to be included in the Mamiya Medical Heritage Center.



HAWAII POISON CENTER

OAHU: 941-4411
NEIGHBOR ISLANDS TOLL-FREE:
1-800-362-3585
Free Hotline 24 Hours a Day.

POISON CENTER TIPS

- Keep the number of the Hawaii Poison Center on or near your telephone.
- If you suspect a poisoning, do not wait for signs and symptoms to develop. Call the Hawaii Poison Center immediately.
- Always keep Ipecac Syrup in your home. (This is used to make a person vomit in certain types of poisoning.) **Do not use Ipecac Syrup unless advised by the Hawaii Poison Center.**
- Store all medicines, chemicals, and household products out of reach and out of sight, preferably locked up.
- A good rule to teach children is to "always ask first" before eating or drinking anything—don't touch, don't smell, don't taste.

Donate to help us save lives.

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Hawaii Poison Center
1319 Punahou Street, Honolulu, HI 96826