



## My fond remembrance of Professor Ghamar Hosseini Al-Hashemi

It is with profound and great sadness that I write on the passing of my honorable colleague and dear friend, **Professor Ghamar Hosseini Al Hashemi**, one of the first pioneering pediatric nephrologists in Iran.

In 1979, I met Professor Hashemi at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), where I was a third year renal fellow. She had come from Shiraz University, as a visiting professor, to the CHOP to spend a year of sabbatical with us.

I was charged, as a chief renal fellow and instructor in pediatrics, to get Dr. Hashemi acquainted with the Nephrology Division clinical, teaching and research programs. I was fortunate to make daily inpatient rounds with Dr. Hashemi, take her to the outpatient clinic and accompany her to the nephrology, urology, renal pathology and radiology weekly teaching conferences.

During the weekend, whenever I was off duty, I would have had the pleasure to take Dr. Hashemi and her husband the city of Philadelphia and its neighboring states (New Jersey, New York) and Washington DC for sight seeing. I am so grateful for the time I spent with Dr. Hashemi and appreciate that many unique characteristics I learned from her.

I found Dr. Hashemi, a brilliant clinician, a gifted educator, and a passionate medical director. One of her favorite fun was to spinning urine samples and doing microscopic examination during clinic visits and then teaching the same to students and residents, which I found it very inspiring. She created a wonderful impact through her tireless work with patients and their families. She had a compassionate approach to all aspects of her profession, and she was a remarkably generous person.

Dr. Hashemi was fascinated by what the CHOP would offer to the children with kidney diseases. Her unique aim became more apparent by providing these children with her best possible diagnostic approach and treatment during the course of her tenure at the CHOP.

In 1980, Dr. Hashemi returned to Shiraz upon the completion of her sabbatical. A year later, Dr. Hashemi was the first in Iran to develop nephrology fellowship training program and the first to adapt dialysis techniques including peritoneal and hemodialysis to children. It was a heroic period when the vascular access was by an external arteriovenous shunt and the sessions could last more than 8 hours. Subsequently she established pediatric kidney

transplantation in Namazi Hospital. Despite a difficult start, her efforts made it possible for these children not only to survive but also to return to an almost normal life.

Dr. Hashemi, trained many pediatric nephrologists from Iran. Many of her trainees became leaders in their own countries. All of them admire her medical knowledge, her scientific rigor and her generosity for the children, their families and colleagues.

Dr. Hashemi was a wonderful colleague and delightful human beings with an incredible sense of humor and a unique knack of seriousness when appropriate.

It was an incredible privilege to work alongside Dr. Hashemi. Dr. Hashemi was in the noble sense of the terms “**un honorable homme**” and “**un homme de bien**”. She will be forever remembered as an extraordinary clinician, educator, leader, and human being with unparalleled devotion and kindness.

I know I speak for many. She will be surely missed. Farewell and thank you so much, Dr. Hashemi.



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