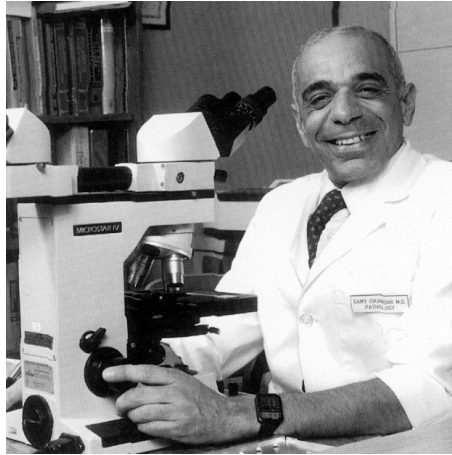


## In Memoriam 2023



**Samy Samuel Iskander, MBBCh, PhD**

**October 19, 1946 - May 25, 2023**

Dr. Samy Iskandar was born on October 19th, 1946, in Alexandria, Egypt. He earned his medical degree (MBBCh) (1971) and Diploma of Academic Sciences in Pathology (1975) from the University of Alexandria Faculty of Medicine. He became a member of the University of Alexandria Faculty of Medicine in the Department of Pathology in 1973.

Samy developed a special interest in nephropathology and pursued fellowship training with nephropathologists in the UK and USA. The first fellowship was 6 months with Coline Tribe in Bristol, UK. Tribe trained with Heptinstall and was among the first generation of pathologists to routinely use light microscopy, immunofluorescence microscopy and electron microscopy for kidney biopsy diagnosis. Samy's second fellowship was 3 months in St. Louis with Fred Germuth who was an excellent diagnostic nephropathologist and a renowned pioneer in elucidating the pathogenesis of glomerulonephritis using animal models. The last leg of his international training experience was with me, a neophyte, self-trained nephropathologist and newly appointed Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

From his first day in Chapel Hill we became friend and colleague more than mentor and trainee. Samy was a joy to work with. We were the same age and both relatively early in our careers. Because of his enthusiasm, expertise and personability, I was very pleased that he extended his planned 3-month visit to five years. At UNC, he was involved in kidney biopsy interpretation and research. He became my first graduate student. His PhD thesis research utilized murine models of immune complex glomerulonephritis to elucidate the importance of antigen charge and antibody affinity on the glomerular location of immune complex deposition and resultant glomerular pattern of injury.

After receiving his PhD, Samy decided to remain in the USA and pursue an academic career. He repeated anatomic pathology residency at St. John's Mercy Medical Center where he continued his collaborations with Fred Germuth, and at Case Western Reserve University where he collaborated with Steven Emancipator in research on murine models of immune complex glomerulonephritis. In 1986, he was certified in Anatomic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology.

In 1987, Samy became Assistant Professor of Pathology at Wake Forest University School of Medicine (formerly Bowman Gray School of Medicine) in Winston Salem, NC. Samy served on the faculty for three decades and rose through the ranks to become Professor of Pathology before retiring. He was Director of Renal Pathology, and also provided service in other areas of Surgical Pathology. In addition to his heavy clinical service load, he was a respected award-winning educator,

and an important coinvestigator in clinical and basic research. Samy co-authored over 75 peer reviewed articles and chapters on a diverse range of human and animal model, native and transplant kidney pathology; as well as articles on non-kidney pathology, notably pancreatic transplant pathology. He was an active participant in nephropathology sessions at ASN and USCAP meetings, including presentation with Agnes Fogo of a USCAP Short Course on glomerular disease (1996-2000).

Dr. Iskandar is one of the most dedicated and hard working academic pathologists I have known; however, this did not deter him from being fully committed to his loving wife Laurice, three sons Christopher, Andrew, and John David, and granddaughter, Julia. They were a great source of inspiration and support.

Samy was a very active member of the Renal Pathology Society from its inception. He served on the first Membership Committee (1992-1993), Communications and Publications Committee (Chair 1996-2001), Training and Education Committee (2004-2005), and Board of Directors (1996-2001, 2009-2014); and was the RPS Historian (2009-2014).

Excerpts from Samy's written philosophy about teaching provide insight into his approach to all of his professional endeavors. He stated that a "crucial responsibility the academic physician bears" is to show "by example, the importance of intellectual honesty, integrity of behavior and compassion for our fellow humans, especially when they are our patients. Without these, no amount of knowledge can make us truly good physicians."

Dr. Samy Iskandar will be remembered as a dedicated expert nephropathologist who also exemplified commitment to family and friends. His warm smile, genuine kindness, and integrity will be sorely missed.

J. Charles Jennette, MD