



IN MEMORIUM

JAMES C. RUSSELL, M.D. **1942-2002**

James C. Russell passed away May 16, 2002 in San Francisco, California following a lengthy illness.

Jim was born in Wilmington, Delaware to Pauline and James Russell. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Delaware, a Master of Science Degree in Microbiology from the University of Missouri and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Missouri. Following completion of his anesthesiology residency at Stanford University, he joined an anesthesia practice in Atlanta, Georgia. Jim began practicing at Redwood Memorial Hospital in 1979 where he remained until his retirement.

Jim will be remembered by all of his colleagues and friends at Redwood Memorial Hospital, as he described himself, a "likeable curmudgeon." During long OR cases he delighted in regaling physicians and hospital OR staff with historical facts and trivia gleaned from his extensive interest and reading on the subject. To these were often added tales of his own life adventures which, though often repeated, never lost their entertainment value thanks to his frequent and varied embellishments. His folksy witticisms, often not politically correct, will be fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Jim was a generous person and a man of his word, who more than once made financial sacrifices in the interest of fairness to colleagues and associates. He was a strong defender and advocate of Redwood Memorial Hospital in general and the Department of Surgery in particular, which became his second family. In his free time, he delighted in working in his small experimental vineyard. Over the course of his tenure in Humboldt County he collected, grafted and planted several unusual and unique varieties of apple trees, knowledge in cuttings of which he freely shared with others.

He is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Joe Champness; niece and husband, Keri and Martin Morrison; nephew Michael Champness; former wife Shirley Russell; stepson, Jeff Laikam; step daughter Jeanne Sherman. He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues in Humboldt County and San Francisco, especially those at Redwood Memorial Hospital.