

# Classnotes

## 1960s

**Louis Trachtman, MD '65,**



writes: On February 9, 2008, I had the honor of being installed as the 121st president of the Orleans Parish Medical Society. I continue full-time work in pediatrics

and preventive medicine with the Louisiana State Department of Health and Hospitals. Though still amazed at how badly Hurricane Katrina hurt New Orleans, my family and I are all coping well.

My best memories of medical school are those shared hours of studying with fellow classmates,

many of whom I have seen at class reunions. I lost my 1965 *Medentian* in the flood following the hurricane here, so if anyone has an extra copy, I would love to have it!" [Editor's note: Staff in the Office of Advancement found a 1965 yearbook and sent it.] E-mail: louis777@juno.com.

ship in surgical oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York in July. My wife, Priya, and I have two children: Malinee, 18 months, and Anjali, 5 months. Email: james.mezhir@uchospitals.edu.

**Jennifer Wiler, MD, MBA '03,** and **Dave Fintak, MD '03,**

recently welcomed the arrival of Blake Zayden Fintak. Dave is doing a vitreoretinal surgery fellowship at the Barnes Retina Institute and Jennifer has taken a position as the assistant chief of Clinical Operations and Observation Unit Medical Director, Division of Emergency Medicine at Washington University in St. Louis/Barnes-Jewish Hospital. **BP**

## 1990s

**Winston G. Douglas, MD '94,**

writes: "I married Sheila Watts in January 2008 and we are expecting our first child in February."

## 2000s

**James J. Mezhir, MD '01,**

writes: "I am currently completing my general surgery residency at the University of Chicago. I will be starting a fellow-

## Medical Alumni Association

UB HOST (*Help Our Students Travel*)

THE UB HOST PROGRAM provides students with opportunities to connect and network with alumni volunteers while interviewing for residency. Hosts may offer assistance with any of the following for our students:

**H**OUSING OR OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

**O**NE-TO-ONE ADVICE ABOUT RESIDENCY, THE PROSPECTIVE MEDICAL CENTER, AND THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY ARE INTERVIEWING

**S**PECIAL MEALS AND TOURS OF CITY OR HOSPITAL

**T**RANSPORTATION TO AND FROM AIRPORT AND/OR INTERVIEWS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in becoming a UB HOST, please contact Jennifer Lobaugh, director of special events and constituent relations, at (877) 826-3246 or email [jlobaugh@buffalo.edu](mailto:jlobaugh@buffalo.edu).



Blake Zayden Fintak



# In Memoriam

**H. Albin “Al” Leonhardt, MD ’55,**

died November 7, 2007, at his home in Honesdale, Pennsylvania. He was 81.

A World War II veteran, Leonhardt graduated from Hamilton College prior to attending UB medical school. Over the course of his career, he had a general practice in Florham Park, New Jersey, and was director of the emergency room and later orthopedic surgery at Overlook Hospital in Summit, New Jersey. He retired and moved to his home in Pennsylvania in 1994.

“Al was a quiet and effective man and doctor,” says Bertrand Bell, MD, a classmate and lifelong friend of Leonhardt. “He dealt with his difficult illness with grace and equanimity.”

Leonhardt is survived by his wife of 57 years, Arlene Bassler; three daughters; a son; and a brother.

**Daniel T. Gianturco, MD ’60,**

died in Durham, NC, on January 23, 2008. He was 73.

An associate professor emeritus of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Duke University, Gianturco was a pioneer in the use of computer technology in medicine.

A native of Buffalo, Gianturco went to Duke in 1960 to complete his residency training after earning his medical degree at UB. After serving as chief resident, he was offered a faculty position specializing in geriatric psychiatry. As a math major in college, he had an interest in computer technology as it became available in the 1970s. Much of his academic career was devoted to developing the use of computers in psychiatric research and practice.

Gianturco assumed numerous leadership roles at Duke, both with the psychiatry

department and in the medical center.

He held the title of advisory dean for the medical center and became an associate professor emeritus in July 2000. A coauthor of approximately 50 scientific articles and book chapters, Gianturco was respected by students, residents and faculty. He had a reputation for helping others, and was selected to be on a committee to develop a campus-wide plan to address the life and rights of underrepresented minorities.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; his daughters, Dr. Laurie Gianturco of Longmeadow, MD, and Carol Bumpass of Durham, NC; and his son, Dr. Daniel Gianturco of Yorktown, VA.

**Joseph Cimino, MD ’62,**

died on July 1, 2007, from complications of prostate cancer. He was 73.

Cimino served as New York City’s health commissioner under Mayor John V. Lindsay from 1972 to 1974 and later as chief executive of New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York.

A *New York Times* obituary states: “As the city’s health commissioner . . . Dr. Cimino strengthened regulations and instituted the first mandatory course in environmental sanitation for all New York restaurants and food stores.

“In November 1973, he saw New York’s sick and injured through a weeklong strike by 30,000 union workers at 48 hospitals and nursing homes in the metropolitan area.”

A native of the Bronx, Cimino was an all-city quarterback for Stuyvesant High School and attended Harvard University on scholarship from 1956 to 1965. At Harvard, he earned two master’s degrees—one in industrial health and another in public health—in addition to a third master’s degree in biology that he earned at Fordham University.

Following medical school at UB, he completed residency training at Grasslands Hospital in Valhalla.

Over the course of his career, Cimino also served as director of New York City’s poison control center, as director of employee health for the Department of Sanitation and, from 1974 to 1978, as Westchester County commissioner of hospitals, where he played a key role in the establishment of the Westchester Medical Center.

**Anthony J. Zaia, MD ’29,** born June 6, 1902, died on January 18, 2008.

**George L. Eckhert, MD ’42,** born April 15, 1915, died on June 29, 2007.

**Peter Terzian, MD ’45,** born on March 21, 1922, died on October 28, 2007.

**Hans F. Kipping, MD ’47,** born January 8, 1924, died on February 1, 2008.

**Julia Cullen, MD ’49,** born October 16, 1919, died on December 6, 2007.

**Dominick Cultrara, MD ’58,** born on February 26, 1920, died on October 19, 2007.

**Beth J. Wutz, MD ’92,** born September 19, 1966, died on October 4, 2007.