**Norman Chassin, MD ‘45**, associate clinical professor of medicine emeritus at UB and former chief of internal medicine at Kenmore Mercy Hospital, died April 11, 2008, in Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, Amherst, New York. He was 87.

Born in Buffalo, Chassin attended Bennett High School and earned his bachelor’s and medical degrees from UB in 1942 and 1945, respectively.

He maintained a practice in internal medicine in Kenmore from 1951 to 1975 and during that time served on the staff at Kenmore Mercy, where he also was chair of the Internship Program and the Institutional Ethics Committee. He later helped found the fund-raising foundation for the hospital.

Chassin also was an attending physician at E.J. Meyer Memorial Hospital (now Erie County Medical Center), where he served his residency; Millard Fillmore Hospital; and Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

He began teaching in the UB Medical School in 1951 and was codirector of the program in bioethics and humanities from 1977 to 2000. Chassin was instrumental in establishing the medical ethics program at the school and was president of the UB Medical Alumni Association, particularly involved in the annual Spring Clinical Days.

He was founder of the Western New York Network of Institutional Ethics Committees and founder and president of UB’s Friends of the Health Sciences Library. Chassin was honored by the American College of Physicians for his lifetime achievements.

He received the Sister Mchilde Memorial Award from Kenmore Mercy Hospital in 1989 and the UB Medical Alumni Association Career Achievement Award in 2000.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years, the former Charlotte Sodolak; two sons, Dr. Marvin and David; a daughter, Joan Holmlund; and a sister, Lois Davis.

**Joel Shugar, MD ‘85**, co-founder and medical director of Nature Coast Eye Care Institute & Regional Surgery Center in Perry, Florida, died May 26, 2008, in a skydiving accident in Eloy, Arizona. A fellow skydiver collided with Shugar about 80-100 feet above the landing zone, rendering him unable to control his chute.

Shugar is survived by his wife, Lindsey, and his 8-year-old son, Adam.

In addition to the ongoing care he provided his patients, Shugar was well known for performing cataract surgeries free of charge for uninsured patients each year prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Martin Ingraham Bennett, MD ‘84,** died peacefully at her home in Silver Spring, Maryland, on March 3, 2008, after succumbing to brain cancer. She was 46. Bennett was born in Rochester, NY, and then moved to Buffalo, NY, where she attended Buffalo Seminary. She graduated from Princeton University before spending three years in Zaire, now the Congo, as a Peace Corps Volunteer and returning to attend medical school at UB. After finishing medical school in 1984, she trained in family medicine at Case Western Reserve Hospital in Cleveland, OH. She then moved to the Washington DC area in 1998 where she practiced medicine for seven years.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Francesco Bikamba, and their two sons, Tai and Liam Bikamba. She also leaves her father, William B. Bennett, and his partner, Lee Eddy; her brother William M. Bennett; and sisters-in-law, Ingrid and a niece Mac; and a nephew Kit. Her mother, Jeanette Bennett, preceded her in death.

Martha will always be remembered for her keen mind; open heart; love of family, friends and food; and her positive contributions toward making the world a better place for everyone.

Family, friends and classmates are invited to send a message for inclusion in a memory book for Martha’s boys. Please write about a special moment you shared with Martha that might truly tell Tai and Liam how special their mother was and is. Mail your note to Francesco Bikamba, 1712 Overlook Drive, Silver Spring, MD, 20903.

**David Brooks, MD ‘08, MPH, MBA**, pictured here at commencement with his parents, David and Jeri, is the first student at the University at Buffalo to graduate with a medical degree, a master’s degree in public health, and a master’s degree in business administration.

A native of Lakeview, New York, Brooks attended Cornell University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in applied economics and business administration, magna cum laude, while also finding time to launch several successful business ventures.

Before he achieved his triple-degree first at UB, Brooks set another precedent at the university, when he became the first medical student elected to the student representative’s seat on the UB Council.

The 10-member council serves as the primary oversight and advisory board to the university and its president and senior officers.

In 2005, when Brooks was interviewed by Buffalo Physician about his post on the council, he said, “I only do things when I think I can make a positive impact. I chose medicine over business for that reason.”

This summer, Brooks began residency training in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Pennsylvania.

When asked what his goals are for the future, he says, “I have found the best physicians bring diverse views to the table when treating patients. Ultimately, the better I can understand the concerns of the doctors, public health professionals and business people, the better health care I can provide. I hope to make a difference in the way medicine is practiced using my degrees and experiences. While I am excited about my accomplishments at UB, I look forward to my graduate medical training and continued service. After completing my residency, I plan to return to Buffalo.”

At commencement, UB president John B. Simpson awarded Brooks a Presidential Student Citizenship Award (see photo of the presentation on page 13). The award recognizes exceptional leadership, volunteerism and citizenship within the UB community and throughout the Buffalo Niagara Region.

—S. A. UNGER

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**In Memoriam**

**Robert Gordini, MD ‘92; born on September 8, 1937, died on September 6, 2007.**

**Herbert P. Mullman, MD ‘64; born in 1938, died on March 4, 2008.**

**William Stratford, MD ‘75; born on November 11, 1949, died on January 15, 2008.**

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**IN MEMORIAM CORRECTION**

In the spring 2008 issue of Buffalo Physician, it was incorrectly stated that Daniel T. Gianturco, MD, was associated with the Buffalo Medical Alumni Association. In the spring 2008 issue of Buffalo Physician, it was incorrectly stated that Daniel T. Gianturco, MD, was associated with the Buffalo Medical Alumni Association. In the spring 2008 issue of Buffalo Physician, it was incorrectly stated that Daniel T. Gianturco, MD, was associated with the Buffalo Medical Alumni Association.