



Dr. N. Zel Rothstein

January 12, 1952 - January 23, 2020

N. Zel Rothstein, M.D., age 68, husband of Donna L. Eroh-Rothstein, of Phoenixville, PA, passed away on Thursday, January 23, 2020 surrounded by family after a courageous fight with pancreatic cancer. Born on January 12, 1952 in Rochester, NY, he was a son of Dr. Morton and Jean (Rosenberg) Rothstein of Buffalo, NY.

Dr. Rothstein grew up in Berkley, CA before moving to Buffalo, NY and graduating from Amherst High School. He received his undergraduate degree from the University at Buffalo, and attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania. He would complete his residency in internal medicine at Temple University Hospital, and his fellowship in Cardiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Dr. Rothstein was a dedicated physician at PMA Medical Specialists for 36 years, where he loved caring for his patients and community. All who knew him knew that he was a die-hard Buffalo Bills and Sabres fan. He enjoyed skiing, playing hockey and tennis, and was a talented rock and roll keyboardist as well. Most of all, family meant the world to him, and he loved spending time with them and taking family vacations.

In addition to his wife and parents, Dr. Rothstein is survived by three children, Eric S. Rothstein, husband of Leah Henderson of Quechee, VT, David L. Rothstein of Phoenixville, PA, and Jennifer E. Rothstein of New York, NY; two siblings, David M., husband of Lisa Rothstein of Pittsburgh, PA and Marilyn K.,

wife of Rick Frappa of Orchard Park, NY; and many much loved nieces, nephews, and friends.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral ceremony at Congregation B'nai Jacob, Starr and Manavon Streets, Phoenixville, PA on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 11:00 am. Officiating will be Rabbi Jeff Sultar. Burial will be held in the Haym Salomon Memorial Park, Malvern, PA. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Congregation B'nai Jacob, 101 Manavon Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460 or to the Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, 2990 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 300C, Los Angeles, CA 90064. Condolences may be made by visiting www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

Cemetery Details

Haym Salomon Memorial Park

200 Moores Road
Frazer, PA 19355

Previous Events

Funeral Ceremony

JAN 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Congregation B'nai Jacob
Starr and Manavon Streets
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall

AL

“ I was saddened to belatedly learn about Dr. Rothstein's passing. I remember him as a kind and brilliant teacher when he was my senior resident at Temple and I was a junior medical student trying to find my way in internal medicine. We both knew I was destined for a career in psychiatry, yet he took the time to mentor me, and he prepared me well for my "Professor's Rounds." Dr. Rothstein then set a course for California to complete his training, while I remained at Temple for mine. May his memory shine bright and be a blessing to all who were fortunate to know him.

Arthur Lazarus - September 13, 2022 at 07:57 AM

CE

“ Celeste lit a candle in memory of Dr. N. Zel Rothstein



Celeste - August 09, 2020 at 01:54 PM

EI

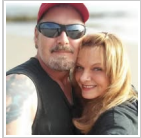
“ Met Zel while he was in Medical School. I always thought he was too cool to be a doctor. His great laugh and dancing blue eyes always lit up the room. I will never forget his wonderful personality. Rest in peace the coolest doc. From, Elyse Egles Insel

Elyse Insel - April 30, 2020 at 09:41 PM

RR

“ He was so much more than a doctor! He was a genuine cool guy! He was a rock n roll keyboard player! Hockey fan. Always remembered to ask how Dawn, Sky and little Ray were doing? I mean it's hard enough to get a doctor to remember my name!!! Let alone my wife and kids! A Doctor, musician. A hockey fan. You can see why I'm really going to miss the best Doctor I've ever seen! Thank you Dr. Rothstein for all you've done for me! You will be truly missed. Journey well my friend! You are a true hero to us! 💔

Raymond Ramsher - March 05, 2020 at 12:13 AM



“ My husband Ray had a major heart attack at only 32 ! We had just had 2 children and we were terrified ! We meet Dr. Rothstein and he made us feel so safe ! We can't begin to say how much we have looked forward to visiting him ! He always went out of his way to ease your worries and addressed any concerns no matter how small with such loving care ! We knew him for 18 years ... we really loved him ! We witnessed his illness...but he never would say what was going on in his personal life ! (But we knew) he fought valiantly and with such strong dignity ! He will always be our inspiration and like I would tell him "He is our hero" ! We meant that with all our hearts ! We will miss you deeply !

Dawn-Marie Reed-Ramsher - March 04, 2020 at 05:40 PM

RS

“ Rose Marie Schrupp lit a candle in memory of Dr. N. Zel Rothstein



Rose Marie Schrupp - February 23, 2020 at 11:19 AM

JF

“ I just got admitted to Pottstown hospital on the heart floor. I just KNEW I would see Dr. Rothsteins smiling face waking me up at 5 am. I am literally sitting here with nothing but sadness that I will not see that. There are SO many memories I have of him from taking care of my father, brother and eventually me. Too many to ever count. But one thing they all have in common is that he was one of the most pleasant, smiling and truly passionate docs I have ever dealt with. He will be truly missed by all. My prayers go out to the family and remember he is always with you! ❤️

jaclyn foster - February 11, 2020 at 12:55 AM

BH

“ Will be missed by all who knew him

Brian Hydier - January 27, 2020 at 05:23 PM

HS

“ Our heartfelt thoughts are with The Rothstein family and all in your wide circle of family, friends and colleagues of Zel. We are sad to have only had just a brief opportunity to know Zel, though happy to have known of his exceptional life and successes in family and career. Leah is so fortunate to have had a meaningful relationship with her father-in-law - a reciprocal adoration and endearing connection.

Sending love from The Starkman - Smith family - Reuben, Holly, Marty & Sadie.

Holly Starkman Smith - January 26, 2020 at 12:48 PM

AG

“ Dear all. Words can not express my sadness for the passing of Zel. He was an amazing man in so many ways, and he truly loved you all . He will remain with me due to so many fond and funny memories of him, And he will with you too...XOXO
Amy Gregory



Amy Gregory - January 26, 2020 at 09:10 AM

CP

“ To the Rothstein family. There are so many fond memories of him in the Cardiac Health Care department. I can't count how many times I said " he was just here" or dodging his swinging and twirling stethoscope. He was focused on his next patient but never too busy to laugh with us or share something little about his family. His patient's and staff had nothing but good things to say about him. We are saddened that this wonderful physician and man has suffered so much and will no longer fly through the halls of PMMC but happy that he is at peace. Maybe he will slow down now but when I see a wispy cloud I will think "Zel just flew through it on to his next adventure. He will and is greatly missed.

Carol Peacock - January 26, 2020 at 08:34 AM

ST

My mother just told me of Dr Rothsteins passing. J worked with him at Phoenixville Hospital for 18 years. I worked for the administer and CFO, but we always talked as he always took the time to speak to everyone. When it came time for my father to need a cardiologist, I had him go Dr Rothein and my parents just loved and adored him. My family and I will deeply miss this wonderful man. Taken way too soon..RIP Dr Rothein. My heartfelt condolences to his family for sharing your husband and father with those of us who knew him and loved him.

Susan Theil - February 04, 2020 at 08:14 PM

JD

“ Dear Rothstein Family, I just wanted to share my condolences at the passing of your Father. I had the pleasure of working with him at Pottstown hospital for a number of years and found him to be among the most kind and thoughtful men I ever met. I moved out of the area years ago but saw this posting on Facebook. Please know your father's life reach will beyond his work as a Physician. As you know, he was simply a very kind man who was very widely loved and well regarded. He will be missed.

Jerry DeLeo - January 25, 2020 at 09:53 PM

JT

“ Dear Donna, Eric, Jenny and David,

We are so shocked and saddened by the passing of Zel. He will be greatly missed by current patients as well as the multitude of family and friends. He did so much for my mom and dad and gave us time we would not have had. He was the life at the family picnic. We are sorry for your loss and send our deepest condolences.



June, Bill, Lauren and Aliyah

june thompson - January 25, 2020 at 07:09 PM

PA

“ I will always remember him fondly as a friend and physician! He will be sorely missed!!

Patricia - January 25, 2020 at 06:03 PM

MB

“ My prayers go out to Dr. Rothstein's family. He was my cardiologist and I will always remember how he "charged" into the room with a smile and a handshake. I never hesitated about going for my visits because I knew he would have a joke or two to share with me yet he was very concerned about my care. He will be missed.

Margaret Bryan

Margaret Bryan - January 25, 2020 at 11:12 AM

AG

“ Zel will always be a friend and colleague I will remember fondly- he was like a ray of sunshine and cheer to his patients and colleagues, always positive and with a bubbly humor and wit, blended with a sharp intellect.

I will never forget how involved he was with his passion for tennis and the many conversations we had about our sons and their exploits at Great Valley high school.

In the midst of his prolonged illness , he always made it point to ask about my family, no matter how sick or ill he himself felt- truly a friend whose passing I will feel deeply and miss.

I'm glad his suffering is over , he led a life of exemplary service, kindness and dignity.

Amit Gangoli - January 24, 2020 at 05:21 PM

RT

Zel will always hold a special place in our family from my mothers. care to both my problems his care and support got us through he is a credit to his profession and will be greatly missed

Robert tjees - January 24, 2020 at 06:45 PM

CG

I remember very well the start of his career at PMMC and his kind, compassionate, caring patient-centered, giving demeanor. He will be greatly missed as a healthcare practitioner and exemplary man.

Cheryl Goodwin - January 24, 2020 at 09:07 PM

LC

“ *Dr. Rothstein will be remembered for his amazing traits, He was smart, funny and treated everyone like he was your Family Member. My thoughts are with his wonderful family.*

Lori Clarke - January 24, 2020 at 02:44 PM

RS

“ *Diane and I worked with Zel at PMMC and we will always remember him as a great physician whose patients loved him. We will remember his early rounds, many jokes, friendliness to all, and his pride in his family. He will be missed by his many friends and patients but never forgotten. Our deepest sympathy to Donna and family--may God be with you and comfort you.*

Rick and Diane Saylor

Richard Saylor - January 24, 2020 at 02:26 PM

KY

“ *My condolences to Donna and family. I worked with Zel from the time he was a "rent a doc" for PMA at Phoenixville Hospital, then worked at PMA, and again when I worked at Phoenixville Hospital. He was so kind and passionate about his job and his family. He had so much energy you could hear him coming a mile away. He was always smiling and funny. He will always be remembered and forever missed by everyone he came in contact with.*

*Sincerely,
Kim Yonkovitch*

Kim Yonkovitch - January 24, 2020 at 02:14 PM

RM

“ *ROSE Marie lit a candle in memory of Dr. N. Zel Rothstein*



ROSE marie - January 24, 2020 at 12:21 PM

JK

“ *There are not enough words to express how much better Dr. Rothstein made the world. A gifted, compassionate physician, Dr. Rothstein was my mother and my cardiologist. I witnessed numerous times his caring for his patients and his dedication to his profession. When my mother needed a cardiologist, she of course was apprehensive, however upon meeting Dr. Rothstein her fears were dismissed. His bedside manner along with his smile gave him the ability to lighten up any room. He made it easy for patients to face appointments and hospital stays. Dr Rothstein had a way of delivering results of tests or updates on conditions that always made even the worst of situations seem manageable. My deepest condolences to his family. I will truly miss him and am saddened at his passing. He will never be replaced.*

With deepest sympathy, Janice Konowal

Janice Konowal - January 24, 2020 at 07:37 AM

AF

Can not agree with this more! He took such wonderful of my grandmother and I. I will never forget his compassion, and when he climbed in the back of the wheelchair van to see her because the gate stopped working. He had a wonderful soul. He will be missed.

Andrea Fishlock - January 24, 2020 at 07:38 AM

BA

I worked with Zel many years ago when he first joined PMA. He always greeted me with a smile and a joke! Years later, he was my dad's cardiologist and the two of them became fast friends. Zel even visited my dad when he was on hospice. They just sat and shared jokes! He was kind and thoughtful, funny and caring, not to mention a really great doctor. He will most certainly be missed by so many people, myself included. My deepest sympathies to his family, friends and colleagues. I pray your memories will bring you peace.

Barbara Cinciripino Andress - January 24, 2020 at 09:12 AM

CF

“Zel had compassion with everything he did. There are no words to lift the monumentous weight we all feel right now. For 13 years, I've worked with him exchanging conversation about family, work and everyday life. He was definitely a man who cared and was very proud of his job and most of all his family. Throughout his diagnosis he continued do what he loved. He impacted many lives and for that alone he will never be forgotten. Extending my most heartfelt sympathy to the family & close friends.

Crystal Frankenberg - January 24, 2020 at 07:00 AM

DC

I will forever be indebted to Dr. Rothstein for his compassionate care of my late husband, Marlin (Mickey) Pressler. He helped me through some very difficult time while caring for my husband. He was the very best in his field. Rest in peace my dear friend. Dottie Cox

Dorothy Cox - January 24, 2020 at 12:40 PM

BM

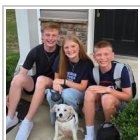
“ Dr. Rothstein was my mother and aunt's cardiologist. Many years ago, when my aunt was in desperate need of surgery that she could not afford, Dr. Rothstein was instrumental in getting her into Deborah where she never received a bill. I became acquainted with him when I started taking my elderly mother to her appointments and I was always struck by his kindness and compassion, not to mention his expertise in my mother's somewhat unusual case. He was a great man and a great physician and it is with great sorrow that I heard of his passing. He will be truly missed.

Bonnie Mack - January 24, 2020 at 06:44 AM

BT

“ I feel at such a loss of words to express Zel,s passing. He put the gold stamp on what it truly means to be a physician. His approach to patient care was unmatched, truly compassionate and absolutely brilliant. It was always a good day when Zel was covering Pottstown. I had to be prepared with my new material (jokes) which we shared over so many years from my days in ICU to being an administrative supervisor. We agreed that a good laugh was vital in our profession. Our professional collaboration was something that I will be grateful forever. My sincerest condolences to the family. The world has lost a truly remarkable person.

Barry Torrente - January 24, 2020 at 12:30 AM



“ Dr. Rothstein was so kind. I worked as a nurse on the cardiac unit and loved when we shared patients. He listened to me and cared about the whole person. Praying for your whole family.

NathanBecca Fisher - January 24, 2020 at 12:01 AM

BN

“ Dr. Rothstein was such a great cardiologist and person! I am so thankful that I got the chance to learn and work with him at Pottstown Hospital! We always knew to expect Zel bright and early shuffling down the pcu hallways to round on his patients. He taught me so much and has helped make me the nurse that I am today.

Brittany Nazzaro - January 23, 2020 at 10:40 PM

BB

“ So very sorry to hear this horrible news. He was my cardiologist since 1997. I always joked with him, that if anyone ever had to give me some really bad news, I hoped it was him, because he would have added some funny quip to make it seem okay. Such a truly great guy and terrific doctor. Brad Beyer

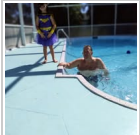
Brad Beyer - January 23, 2020 at 09:14 PM

JJ

“ Dr. Rothstein will always be remembered for his genuinely kind and humble soul. He will be dearly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of working beside him.



Jennifer and Parris Janusek - January 23, 2020 at 08:55 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Dr. Rothstein was a great Doctor. He was a caring person to both patient and staff. May God bless him and comfort his family. Kathy Cronin

Kathy Cronin - January 23, 2020 at 08:19 PM

PH

“ Many happy memories of the man and the dr. Zel was a wonderful person and an excellent Cardiologist. Everyone who met him knew how special he was. Always happy with a big smile,his patients loved him. You will be missed! With lots of love, Peggy Haupt BSN

Peggy Haupt - January 23, 2020 at 08:15 PM

SP

“ Syl and I share our finest condolences on the passing of Dr. Rothstein. We have fond memories of his excellent and tender care as he treated Syl for her heart condition for many years.



Sal and Sylvia Katz of Phoenixville, PA - January 23, 2020 at 07:20 PM

DM

“ Zel was a wonderful man, a caring physician and a joy to be around and work with. There are few people with his attributes. He will be sorely missed.
Deborah M.Rosa, M.D.

Deborah Rosa M.D. - January 23, 2020 at 06:21 PM

KM

“ Zel was friend to all who knew him. I particularly will miss the sound of his furious shuffle on the tile floors of th hospital, the twinkle in his eye when he uses a naughty word in a foreign language, and even those 6 AM calls while I was brushing my teeth and he had already rounded on his service at the hospital. His eternal good humor and boundless energy. We are lucky to have known him.

Kathleen Magness - January 23, 2020 at 06:19 PM

EW

Zel was everything to all of us who worked with him at PMMC. He treated staff with great respect and never had a unkind word if things were not done or missed that he ordered. He would simply ask the reason why . . You would always know he was on the unit by his brisk walk ,great smile,coffee in hand .His dedication to his patients,concern for their families was remarkable. He never forgot our names,always asked about families and made time to ask how we are .As a cardiologist he educated us on heart disease, invasive procedures, pharmacology up dates. I am blessed that Dr Rothstein was a part of my life . Miss him. .My prayers and thought to his family.

Este Warren

Este Warren - January 25, 2020 at 11:15 AM

NH

“ Zel was a friend and a colleague with such passion for his work, his patients, and everyone he worked with. He was so welcoming when started at Pottstown hospital right out of residency. He truly cared about people and always stopped zipping through his work to make a personal connection. He was so loved by his patients and all who new him. What an incredible man, he will be missed. Sending prayers and love to his family. Nikki Heisman-Rifkin DO

nikki heismam-rifkin - January 23, 2020 at 05:22 PM

RN

*“ Dr. Rothstein was a true champion for his patients. His skill and compassion will be sorely missed by our hospital community.
Rich Newell, CEO
Pottstown Hospital*

Rich Newell - January 23, 2020 at 03:32 PM

GW

“ Donna and family, our heart cries for your loss. Please know we are thinking of y'all at this difficult time. Rich and Ginna Walker

Ginna Walker - January 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

SH

I know this very late, but I just found out that Zel has passed. We were great friends in high school at Amherst Central. He lived just down the street from me. We played rock music a lot and Zel was a very talented musician himself back then. He ran track, and was a very good student. Such a nice guy. I don't ever remember him getting mad at anyone or anything. We went to colleges that probably 1,500 miles apart, so I didn't see him after that but I always have remembered our teenage years together.

Steve Hawkland - November 05, 2021 at 04:16 PM