



Dr. Giovanni Gion De Domenico

January 14, 1949 - April 10, 2010

Dr. Giovanni De Domenico, Ph.D., recently retired Professor and Chair of the Physical Therapy Department, died Saturday, April 10, 2010 after a brief illness. Dr. De Domenico arrived at the Health Science Center in 2000. His leadership greatly enhanced the administrative functions of the department, improved faculty stability, and further developed the curriculum to provide exceptional providers of rehabilitation services throughout Texas and the nation. He most recently led the Department of Physical Therapy in the creation of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program – the School of Health Profession's first doctoral degree program. Dr. De Domenico's academic career spanned a total of 35 years assisting students to achieve their professional goals of becoming physical therapists. Before arriving in San Antonio, Dr. De Domenico enjoyed a rich, international career doing what he loved. He chaired the Department of Physical Therapy at The University of South Alabama in Mobile from 1994 through 1999, directed the School of Physiotherapy at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada from 1992 through 1994, and served as a faculty member in physical therapy programs at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia, The School of Physiotherapy, Sydney Australia, and several well-recognized schools of physiotherapy in the United Kingdom. Dr. De Domenico received his Ph.D. in physiology at The School of Physiology and Pharmacology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia and a master's degree in applied psychology from University of Aston, Birmingham,

United Kingdom. Dr. De Domenico was an internationally recognized expert in the field of electrophysical agents in the provision of physical therapy. He authored numerous papers, books, and monographs and presented his work all over the world. Dr. De Domenico was also a reviewer and editorial board member for several international journals. Dr. De Domenico's commitment to his profession, the UT Health Science Center, faculty, and students will have long-lasting effects. Dr. De Domenico revitalized the University of Texas Health Science Center Physical Therapy Alumni Association. This association experienced tremendous growth during his tenure and has amassed a sizable endowment for student scholarships. Most of the faculty Dr. De Domenico originally recruited and hired remain on faculty today. He is responsible for overseeing the education of over 300 physical therapy graduates, most of whom practice in Texas and many in medically underserved areas of our state. Dr. De Domenico was also a strong supporter and leader of the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions, and served as president and historian of that organization. Dr. De Domenico's love for educating and mentoring students was matched with his affection for his hobbies of carpentry, home renovations, photography, and collecting treasures from his world travels. He delighted in showing off his projects and photographs to friends and co-workers. Dr. De Domenico is survived by his son, Josh De Domenico, sister, Maria Jefford. We lift up our prayers to Jacqueline Montez who sacrificed tremendously through her unconditional love as the primary caregiver to Giovanni and the very special friends from Believers Fellowship who offered their time, devotion, prayers and blessings to Giovanni as he courageously persevered after his illness. Family also wish to thank Dr. Ian Thompson, Dr. Tamara Simpson, Dr. Bryan Lin, Dr. Sandra Fox and the many great attending physicians and nurses at the University Hospital .

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the UT Health Science Center Physical Therapy Alumni Association where a scholarship in Dr. De Domenico's name will be established. Contributions may be mailed to The Department of Physical Therapy, UT Health Science Center, 7703 Floyd Curl

Drive, MSC 6247, San Antonio, TX 78229.

Tribute Wall

AL

“ *Sorry to have missed seeing you. We are all thinking of you. Love from your Sydney, Australia mob*

Anna Lee - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *one day we shall meet again.xxx*

mrss joanna shaddick - April 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *My memories of you Uncle Giovanni were only as a little girl, I so wish I would have had the oppurtunity to get to know you more in my adult life...I hope now you are at peace with Nanny and Grandad, I've read some touching messages that show me how well*

Mrs Emma Banfield - April 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MB

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Mrs Emma Banfield - April 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *Gion had the best sense of humor! We laughed alot. He was fearless! Life with him was an adventure. I am glad I knew him.*

Connie Plemmons - June 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Such a capable and "brilliant" man with a superlative career! His departure from this life is a great loss for us all. Gion was a great friend and a fabulous mentor in my own life. He was instrumental in my professional development. He had a great lov

Dr Dennis Fell - April 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Gion revitalized the PT department at the University of South Alabama and was a tremendous motivator and encourager to students, faculty including myself and anyone he had contact with. He will be sorely missed. May God bless you.

Charles and Linda Gray - April 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ I met Gion in Singapore about 25 years ago, soon after graduating from NZ. He had popped over from Australia to do a weekend workshop on Interferential Therapy. I remember his enthusiasm, friendliness and professionalism. Needless to say, his workshop lef

Cheng - April 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Dr. D. was a great professor and an amazing believer of his faith. Nothing was impossible if you just worked at it and strived to be the best person you could be. I will always be grateful for his support throughout my years in PT school. Thank you,

Sylvia A. Rodriguez - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ My condolences to the family of Dr. D at this difficult time, he was a teacher of mine who I highly respected and admired for his expertise in Physical Therapy. He will be missed.

Patrice Lansford - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Gion was a fine man. We are the poorer for his passing.

Jack Crosbie - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Gion was the kind of person who built others up through praise and encouragement. He was easy to talk to and influenced many positive changes in my life, while working with him at the University of South Alabama. I will always be grateful that I had the c

Mavis Jarrell - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I was so saddened to hear of "Dr. D's" passing. I was his secretary during his time at the University of South Alabama. My prayers go out to his family, especially "Gionni" which he spoke of often. I pray for the peace that passes all understanding for hi

Janice Sellers - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I would like to thank Dr. D for all of his help an encouragement while I was in the program. I remember helping him with the remodeling of his home. I saw Dr. D hammer a nail in the wall with one hit.

Alex Saenz - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ We sent a homage to Dr. De Domenico for her contribution to Physiotherapy Sciences.

Nivaldo Parizotto - April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ I am another one of Gian's "electrotherapy buddies." We met for the first time at one of the early Electrotherapy summer courses at Marquette University, organized by another dear friend of Gian's, Luther Kloth. This small group of "electro" professors cl

Meryl Gersh - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Although expected, the death of Gion - a friend, professional colleague, mentor, leader and assessor of my PhD - is somewhat of a shock... such good people can't possibly leave, surely? There just never seems to have been sufficient time to communicate an

Liisa Laakso - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I first met Gion in 1987, when I traveled to Perth at his invitation to participate in a symposium on electrotherapy that he was hosting. We reconnected intermittently through the years, but most recently in the past few years as members of a newly formed

David Selkowitz - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Gion and I go back probably 25 years. While he was eccentric as all get out, he was honest and sincere and brilliant. He taught me many things about electrotherapy which we both taught at university to physiotherapy students, but he also taught me about I

Sandy Rennie - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ My uncle was always an inspiration to me. My earliest memory of him was attending my christening in Clacton-on-sea, Essex, UK wearing the then fashionable
â€œKipperâ€ tie. His setbacks in life have only ever pushed him forward. As a young man coming to t

Marc Lawson - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM