

It is with deep sadness and sorrow that I inform you of the passing away of Dr. Amal K. Kurban.

Dr. Kurban graduated with MD degree from AUB in 1952. After a year of internship in Pathology (1952-1953), Dr. Kurban served as a medical officer for the Department of Health in Kuwait (1953-1955), and completed his residency training in Dermatology at AUBMC (1955-1958), followed by two years of fellowship in Dermatology and Connective Tissue Diseases at Johns Hopkins University Hospitals (1958-1960). He was certified by the American Board of Dermatology in 1962.

Dr. Kurban was appointed as Instructor of Medicine (Dermatology) at AUB in 1960, promoted to Assistant Professor in 1961, to Associate Professor with tenure in 1966, and to full Professor in 1972. Dr. Kurban quickly established himself and became legendary for the quality of medicine he performed. He soon became head of Dermatology, and with his colleagues, he successfully established a structured and reputable training program in Dermatology. He served as Chief of Staff at AUBMC from 1977 to 1985. He was always the perfect gentleman dealing with patients, students, residents and colleagues. He was an exemplary clinician, a gifted teacher, and a well-established and recognized researcher.

In 1985 and because of the Lebanese civil strife, Dr. Kurban reluctantly left AUB for Boston, where he joined Boston University as Professor of Dermatology. Over the years he held several leadership positions in that department such as the Director of Clinical Services and Training Programs and Vice Chairman for Academic Affairs. Because of his stellar record in education, he was awarded in 2005 the Lifetime Career Educator Award from the Dermatology Foundation.

Despite the distance, Dr. Kurban kept close contact with AUB faculty and assisted many graduates in pursuing their education and training in Dermatology abroad. In tribute to Dr. Kurban's exemplary record, the Department of Dermatology at AUB launched the "Amal K. Kurban Lectureship and Professorship program at AUBMC", in recognition of his exceptional scholarship, national and international, contributions to the world of dermatology.

The legacy of Dr. Kurban will always be alive, and he will always be remembered as an outstanding mentor and colleague by his innumerable students and friends.

Dr. Kurban is survived by his wife Helena, his daughter Margaret and his sons Andrew, Ramzi and Suhail. We wish them all patience in this difficult time.

The family has held a “Celebration of Life” to his memory on Saturday October 15, 2011 in Boston.
Condolences may be sent to:

rk.dermlieb@verizon.net or mmkurban@gmail.com

or fax: 00-717-273-9081

A memorial service will take place in Beirut at the National Evangelical Church – Charlie Saad Hall, facing the Grand Serail on Saturday November 19, 2011 at 12:00 noon.

Abdul-Ghani Kibbi, MD, FACP
Professor and Chair
Department of Dermatology
American University of Beirut Medical Center
P.O.Box 11-0236
Riad El Solh / Beirut 1107 2020
Lebanon
E-mail: agkibbi@aub.edu.lb
Fax: 00-961-1-745320

