International Symposium on Clinical Disorders of Bone and Mineral Metabolism

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In Appreciation

In addition to members of the Editorial Board, many individuals have reviewed manuscripts for the Henry Ford Hospital Medical Journal during the past year. The Editorial Board would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge their valued service in acting as reviewers for the Journal in 1983.

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To Frances and Anthony D'Anna

This issue of the Henry Ford Hospital Medical Journal is a tribute to Frances D'Anna, a patient of Dr. Boy Frame who lost her life to bone cancer in 1979, and to Anthony D'Anna, her loving husband, who is a long-time friend and benefactor of Henry Ford Hospital.

The story of Frances and Anthony D'Anna is a moving affirmation of the vitality of the American dream.

Born in Sicily in 1900, Mr. D'Anna came to America as a young boy with his family. They settled in Wyandotte, Michigan, where he grew up and met his future wife Frances. When his parents died a few years later, he quit school to take care of his seven brothers and sisters. He married Frances when she was 21, and she became the mother to his brothers and sisters. Hardly more than a girl herself, she welcomed the responsibility of mothering her husband's family. This nurturing role suited her perfectly, so much so that in later years she was known as “Mom” to almost everyone.

Mrs. D'Anna was a warm, loving woman who opened her arms and heart to all those around her, family and friends alike. Besides rearing two fine daughters, Catherine and Lettie, she and Mr. D'Anna also made a home for five orphan children. A kindhearted woman never too busy to listen to the troubles of others, she was always ready to offer encouragement or sympathy. Mrs. D'Anna was a woman of extraordinary beauty, grace, and dignity who lived for her family. She was the model wife and mother.

While Mr. D'Anna was serving his country by selling war bonds, which helped the American war effort, Mrs. D'Anna was active in their parish church and local charitable organizations, in order to help the retarded and needy of the city of Detroit. Mr. D'Anna is a patriotic American whose civic efforts have brought him national and international renown. Mrs. D'Anna was a saintly woman whose Christian charity radiated goodness in her family life and personal relationships.

For almost 60 years, Mr. and Mrs. D'Anna enjoyed a happy marriage. Her untimely death from bone cancer in 1979 robbed the whole family of its strongest support. The memory of her goodness remains a living presence for her devoted husband and children.

When Frances D'Anna died, her bereaved family established a memorial fund in her name at Henry Ford Hospital for study and research of bone cancer and metabolic bone disease. In May, 1983, this fund was used to support the International Symposium on Clinical Disorders of Bone and Mineral Metabolism. This issue of the Henry Ford Hospital Medical Journal also derives its support from this fund and from the generous personal contribution of Mr. D'Anna himself. In this way, it is hoped that Frances D'Anna will be remembered not only by her loved ones but also by scientists working to find a cure for diseases of the skeleton and by readers of this issue of the Journal.