IN LIVING TRIBUTE

Dr. Arthur D. Smith

Reminiscences from colleagues, friends, and family around the globe
On the occasion of his Festschrift

*Journal of Endourology* will publish the formal peer-reviewed Festschrift with papers from all over the globe in early 2017.

We gratefully acknowledge

![COOK Medical](image)

for their support of this Tribute, and for the upcoming Festschrift issue of *Journal of Endourology*

- Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. publishers
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Arthur, passionate about his work, always wanted to make a difference....and over the years he certainly contributed to his specialty. He is innovative and creative, and he pursued his ideas and goals with determination and persistence. Early on in his career he would persevere even in the face of criticism and opposition to unorthodox ideas.

On a personal note I’d like to say that, in spite of his dedication to his work and work-related projects, he has always maintained a superb balance between work commitments and time with the family, which we all enjoy. We have been fortunate to travel to many exotic and interesting places, meeting great people and having a lot of fun together. Equally wonderful are the times we spend with our family, whether it be trips with our children and grandchildren or all just enjoying various activities together.

Kay Smith
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There are many moments etched in my mind from the 22 years we spent together! They can be categorized as “Shock & Awe.” — Gopal Badlani, MD

Dr. Smith traveled thousands of miles to teach Chinese urologists in a number of cities about the experiences and techniques in the treatment of urinary stones. He has made a tremendous contribution to the development of endourology in China. — Yinghao Sun

I believe in everyone’s life, there is that one special person that truly makes a difference. For me, that person is you. — Michele Paoli

Words cannot express my deep gratitude for how you have mentored me in my career, showed me how to travel the world through Endourology, and demonstrated how the passion and vision of one man can transform modern-day surgery. — Benjamin Lee, MD

There are very few physicians that truly change the course of medicine. Arthur Smith is one of those rare individuals whose passion for innovation, boundless energy, and extraordinary vision has paved the way for major advances. — Louis R. Kavoussi, MD, MBA

As I have gotten to know him better I have come to admire Dr. Smith more for his character than his achievements. It is truly remarkable for someone so accomplished to remain so humble. — Brian Duty

There is absolutely no way to describe the urgency and uncompromising vision that Arthur Smith espouses, and the joy of knowing him personally as well as professionally. — Mary Ann Liebert

We are proud to know Kay and Arthur, we are happy to call them friends, and we love them. — Christian G. Chaussy, MD

IN LIVING TRIBUTE: ARTHUR D. SMITH, MD
Introduction

Arthur D. Smith, MD
Humility, Hard Work, and Grace

In 1977, Arthur Smith and his family left the warmth of South Africa for the oft frozen tundra of Minnesota—the world of urology has never been the same. Within years of his arrival, the realm of endourology was launched. Despite many skeptics, Arthur prevailed and within short order there was a society (1984), a journal (1986), a definitive text (Smith's Endourology - 1996), and an annual series of world congresses and international videourology meetings. Not before nor since has a revolution of this nature taken hold of our specialty, transforming it from the highly invasive nature common to all other surgical specialties into a largely noninvasive/minimally invasive surgical discipline. And yet, Arthur, unlike most visionaries from Bozzini through Semm, was not disparaged nor expelled from any society. Why?

Herein lies the uniqueness of Arthur Smith. In seeking to create this new discipline of Endourology, at every turn, he freely shared his expertise with all who cared to learn. Never failing to encourage others to succeed, he drew ever larger circles, avoiding conflict through inclusion. Quick to praise and always with a warming smile, Arthur tirelessly inspired those around him to pursue their ideas and to seek excellence. With humility, hard-work, and grace, he created a subspecialty that welcomed everyone to join in the endeavor of taking the sting out of surgery. As a result, over the past 40 years, we have witnessed the evolution of Endourology and the attendant transformation of nearly all open urological surgery into noninvasive or minimally invasive procedures, much to the benefit of humankind. Concurrently Arthur educated a cadre of faculty, fellows and residents who share his passion for pursuing all aspects of Endourology.

Arthur has also shown us all how one can successfully balance a massive career with a wonderful family. In short, Arthur’s best move was marrying Kay. Kay has been his support and his love throughout, raising four very impressive children, all of whom have now married and provided Arthur and Kay with 13 grandchildren.

Today, thousands of urologists and millions of their patients owe a debt of gratitude to Arthur Smith, truly one of a kind in so many ways. And yet, as he would remind us all, the tale is not done: “You are only as good as tomorrow.”

Ralph V. Clayman, MD
Professor, Department of Urology
University of California, Irvine
Co-Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Endourology

John Denstedt, MD
Professor of Urology, Western University
Treasurer, Endourological Society
Executive Editor, Journal of Endourology
Dr. (Professor) Madhu S. Agrawal
MS, MNAMS, MCh: (Urology), Head, Department of Urology & Centre for Minimally Invasive Endourology, Global Rainbow Healthcare, Agra, India; Ex-Professor, S. N. Medical College & Hospital, Agra, India

Dr. Arthur Smith visited my alma mater, SMS Medical College, Jaipur in India, in 1986 to conduct a live demonstration of what was then an absolutely new and fascinating technique of stone removal – the percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL)! Until then, this concept was completely unknown to the vast majority, and it almost appeared magical to be able to remove a kidney stone through just a small 1-cm incision!

Such was the power of his teaching that the technique was immediately adopted at our center, the second center in the country to start a PCNL program, and given the large number of stone patients in Rajasthan, we were soon doing several hundred surgeries a year. I had the good fortune of being among the first Urology post graduate students to be trained in PCNL there, lucky to be at the right place at the right time!

The credit of carrying the Olympian torch of Endourology across seven continents, spreading the awareness and knowledge about PCNL, teaching and training generations of urologists in every part of the world, rests upon the shoulders of this one giant of a man, who would certainly be Sir Arthur had he been a subject of the Queen of England!

I am grateful for this opportunity to pay my tribute to this great personality, a teachers’ teacher! >>

Joel Patrick A. Aldana
MD, MBA: Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery, University of the Philippines—College of Medicine

Unreal. I can truly say that one of the most memorable highlights of my career was being accepted as a fellow of Dr. Smith. This started everything. Several opportunities opened up for me upon returning to my home country and I’ve met some of the most amazing people who I have remained friends up to this day. What is striking though was that Dr. Smith wasn’t only interested in how my career was going but I always felt a genuine concern on how I was doing as a person. He never lost contact and would even send emails to ‘check’ on me. Whenever I get to see him in conferences and after the usual pleasantries, he never fails to ask me if I was happy. Wow. I guess he was trying to tell me that regardless where my career path is going and no matter how successful a person becomes, the most important thing in life is to be happy. Again, thank you very much, Dr. Smith. >>

Thomas E. Ahlering
MD: Professor & Vice Chairman, Department of Urology, University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, Urologic Oncology & Robotic Surgery, Irvine, California, USA

It is an honor to offer a tribute to Art for his novel and pivotal role in developing means to reduce the invasive outcomes of surgical procedures. “Endourology” served as the first urological step to reduce/minimize surgical trauma in an attempt to alleviate patient discomfort but equally importantly how we apply technology to improve how we perform surgery. My connection to Dr. Smith emanates from Dr. Ralph Clayman, also likewise a visionary. As a surgeon, residency and fellowship trained by Dr. Donald Skinner, I was well trained and experienced with maximally invasive surgery – however, the introduction of laparoscopic robotics with Dr. Clayman’s support was my portal to Dr. Arthur Smith’s world of less invasive “Endourology”. I can attest from my experience that it is patients that have most benefited from Art’s paradigm shifting approach to less-invasive surgical approaches, supporting colleagues, and enriching the literature. Thank you, Art! >>
It gives me great honor to write these words to our great mentor Dr. Arthur Smith. Since my residency in McGill University in Canada 20 years ago I knew Dr. Smith as the Father of Endourology. I was honored to be the Endourology fellow at LIJ in 1998. Since that time and onwards he taught me everything from consent taking, renal puncture, post-operative care and even OR preparation for schedule efficiency. Dr. Smith is a great scientist who encouraged me to do research and publish.

He is the greatest in putting together international collaboration and encouraging different countries to develop and share Endourology. I was honored to invite Dr. Smith to Kuwait to do an Endourology Conference and finally honored to have him to be our Senior Editor in my book (Difficult Cases in Endourology).

I wish Dr. Smith and his great family all the best to enjoy a healthy happy prosperous life.

To a good old American friend.

Dean G. Assimos
MD: Professor and Chair, Anton J. Bueschen MD: Endowed Chair in Urologic Research and Surgery, University of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

Dear Arthur,

Congratulations on a highly productive career. You are certainly the Father of Endourology. You have generated the pulse for this field and nurtured a wonderful collaborative and productive society. You have been the trusted mentor of many including myself. Patients across the globe have benefited from your many innovative contributions.

An individual’s success is usually bolstered and enabled by family support. This is certainly true in
your case. I salute your wonderful wife Kay and accomplished children for your career success.

I am truly sorry that I will not be able to attend the upcoming celebration of your career in South Africa. However, my spirit and thoughts will be with you. In addition, I look forward to your continued contributions to the field of Endourology.

Best regards and congratulations,
Dean G. Assimos, MD

“Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower”—Steve Jobs

There are many moments etched in my mind from the 22 years we spent together! They can be categorized as “Shock & Awe”.

Shocked:
A) Driving: you might have seen Jason Bourne driving in the wrong direction on a one-way street; Arthur did it much earlier in early 80s while discovering NYC in his Chevy Chevette.

In the movie The Godfather they turned the car onto GW bridge to make sure no one was following. Arthur did it less successfully with a spectacular crash as he lost consciousness and the fellow fainted from fright as he screamed “Dr. Smith”!!! Then there was the brand new Mercedes rental in Nijmegen. Arthur decided to follow De La Rosette “blindly” across the highway with another spectacular crash upstaging the 25th anniversary of Franz Debruyne leading the department.

B) Department: The practicing urologist never recovered from the changes brought about by ADS; neither did the chief of surgery when we changed from a Division to the department. All the innuendos and rumors were in the league with the current US elections! He persevered and conquered those and the lawyers who challenged him in court, with the statement “I am the precedent”.

C) Skills on the slope: What do you say to your chief and colleague, who asks “does this look OK and should I go skiing again?” and all you can see is a giant swelling under the right gluteal area that is so black and blue & sagging with a liter of blood underneath!!

Awe:
A: Innovation: A 300–plus pound patient admitted with urosepsis, she has a bifid pelvis and the lower moiety is obstructed, has a perc in.

We stand around the table as ADS describes the Endopyelopyelotomy from one pelvis to another! The chutzpah and vision was mind boggling!

B: Vision: To form the society in 1984, and over the years, combining the ESWL, Laparoscopy, Robotic, Imaging, image-guided therapy, BPH and even minimally invasive urinary incontinence under the umbrella of Endourological Society was the genius mind.

Without the initiation, foresight, leadership and invention of Dr. Arthur Smith, Endourology as we now know it, doesn’t happen! Sure, eventually, many of us in this journal would have put many of the pieces together but never to the organized and supported level it is today—especially with the backing of organized urology it currently enjoys.

Even my own origins in this specialty are owed to Dr. Smith’s legacy as one of his first fellows was one of my first mentors. His skill set, professionalism, influence on the promotion of our subspecialty and his eminence in the field have allowed Endourology, the journal of Endourology, and the Endourological Society to reach the prominence they have today.

Dr. Smith has uniquely shaped a subspecialty and gave it its push forward, propelling us all and our patients into the future. Raise a glass (or nephroscope)! Cheers, Arthur! >>

Gopal Badlani
MD: Professor & Vice Chair, Urology, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA

Shock & Awe: Memories of yesteryears!
C: Inclusive : Spreading the wealth of endourology skills around the globe, going where the need was, holding meetings such as WCE and Videourology in every continent has not only sustained this society but growth has made it the largest subspecialty international organization.

On a personal level, he opened many doors for me and started me on a path that only few can dream about. I certainly did not envision where I have reached.

He was the face (and OK the brain) but, two women made him a star: Kay and Michele, so this is as much their celebration as his!

Demetrius H. Bagley
MD: The Nathan Lewis Hatfield Professor of Urology Professor of Radiology, Department of Urology, Thomas Jefferson University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

I have known Art Smith for over 30 years. We met initially at the courses that he and Ralph Clayman organized at the University of Minnesota in the 1980s. We continued to meet at various courses and meetings in the US and around the world. Our next most common meeting site was international airports. As we headed off to the plane, Arthur would go to the business class section and I would go on to coach. In one of these airport meetings where we had a long layover, Arthur proposed the question “why do we do this?” I’m not sure that we ever settled that question.

At meetings, it was always easy for organizers to set up some discussion regarding the upper urinary tract when Arthur and I were present. As a question of approach to the upper tract was presented, Arthur would say “percutaneous nephroscopy” and I would say “ureteroscopy.”

Arthur is really not interested in taking “no” for an answer. That, when coupled with his insatiable intellectual curiosity and need to share, has resulted in numerous studies, papers, videos, books, journals and meetings. The world of urology and urologic patients are immeasurably better for his efforts.

I would like to propose another question for him to consider. Where would endourology be now if we had guidelines and adhered to them in the 1980s?

I would consider one possible answer to the question from the airport meetings. Maybe we did it then and still do it because some of it is fun.

Professor Norberto O. Bernardo
Head of Endourology, Hospital de Clinicas Jose de San Martin, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Arthur’s influence in my life has been decisive. He is my mentor and I also feel he’s like a generous father.

I met him during the World Congress of Endourology in 1995 in Jerusalem and then had the pleasure of performing the Fellowship Program of Endourology Society under his leadership until 1999. It was a time of intense learning with him and of great personal growth.

Upon returning to Buenos Aires I accept the challenge of playing this learning system that taught me. I must confess that at that time and even today in difficult situations, Arthur travels in my mind and I could imagine what he would do in a similar situation. Then the situation becomes clear, the solution is simpler.

Arthur gave me great opportunities and taught me the value of giving opportunities. The image I find inspiring leadership in the pursuit of knowledge and is a permanent stimulus for me. I feel a great affection for Arthur and his wife Kay and permanent thanks for their influence.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to be his disciple and both enjoy that responsibility. Arthur has been the architect of one of the most exciting times of change of urology and then any tribute seem scarce.
Sara L. Best  
MD: Assistant Professor, Department of Urology, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

My favorite story involving Dr. Smith relates to the recent AUA meeting in San Diego, where we were both conscripted to participate in a new medicolegal plenary project. It was my first non-“Highlights” plenary experience and my anxiety was amplified when I learned I was to play the defendant in a mock lawsuit! But then I spoke with Dr. Smith, who reassured me that he was going to play my defense attorney and that he “had this covered!” In a plenary hall full to the brim, Dr. Smith took on two high-powered malpractice attorneys who were scripted to grill us. His “testimony” held the audience enraptured, fluently arguing in my defense, leaving Dr. Ols-son no choice but to acquit! I’ll always be eternally grateful to have our Founder on my side! Many thanks and congratulations! >>

Boston Scientific: Lee Sullivan and Evan Brasington  
VP, Strategic Accounts (Lee), VP, Global Marketing (Evan), Boston Scientific, Urology and Pelvic Health

Arthur Smith, MD, exemplifies quality care, innovation and education. The opportunity to collaborate with Dr. Smith has been an honor and an inspiration for our team. Moreover, his continual commitment to global best practice sharing has given Boston Scientific the chance to support key physician education initiatives. We thank him for all that he has done for the global urology community and patients around the world. >>

Judith Bronson  
President of Stem Line Publishing Services, USA

To be honest up front, I am not a urologist. I am a scientifically trained medical editor and writer, who worked with Arthur Smith beginning when he came to the United States. The faculty and residents of the Department of Urologic Surgery at the University of Minnesota, where he began his American career, had realized quickly that it was to their advantage to have an editor get their manuscripts into their final form; that way, they devoted many more hours to treating patients than shuffling paper. I was able to greatly increase the number of papers the department published each year.

Dr. Smith and I worked on a number of papers that pioneered what came to be called “endourology” (the term was coined by our department chairman, Dr. Elwin E. Fraley). However, one of the first papers I worked on with him was in a completely different field. It concerned the insertion of the Small-Carrion penile prosthesis. There was a photograph of the completed operative field, showing the penis with the semirigid prosthesis in place. I marked the figure so that the penis was vertical. Dr. Smith was shocked: he thought it should be aimed sideways. I told him I liked it better the way I had arranged it, but it was submitted his way. Possibly because the managing editor of the journal was a woman, it appeared my way in print (Smith AD. Circumcision incision for insertion of semirigid penile prosthesis. Urology 1981;18:609.)

Arthur left the University of Minnesota for Long Island Jewish Hospital, and I left the University for Texas, where I started my own company. In effect, he took me with him: thanks to the Internet, he could

IN LIVING TRIBUTE: ARTHUR D. SMITH, MD
send me manuscripts, and I could work on them and send them back. We did this for years: I lost count of the number of papers we put out together, many of them describing pioneering work in endourology. They were consistently exciting, and I looked forward to each one. And as his residents graduated from his program and went off to jobs elsewhere, many of them kept sending me their manuscripts. So the arrangement contributed significantly to my business for years. >>

Yi Cai
MD, MS: China Endourology Fellow 2012–2013

I am honored to learn the endourology knowledge and techniques from Dr. Arthur Smith. This valuable experience provides me with a basis for my future study. He is an excellent surgeon and a respected teacher. >>

Debra Caridi
Executive Assistant, Endourological Society, Inc., USA

What more can be said about the wonderful Dr. Arthur Smith? Dr. Smith, I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing and working with you for the past 31 years. I started working in the Department of Urology in 1985 and was there until 2005 when I took a very short break from Urology to work in the Orthopaedic Department at Winthrop Hospital. I will never forget your face, Dr. Smith, when I told you I was leaving LIJ, you tried to do everything you could to make me stay!

Well, in 2009, I was offered the wonderful opportunity to work for the Endourological Society, and once again, very closely with you, Dr. Smith. My first project was your special issue on PCNL for the Journal of Endourology and the rest is history! There is nothing that I wouldn’t do for you, from making sure you have a hotel room at the AUA each year to typing your AUA schedule, so please don’t ever be embarrassed to ask me!

You’ve been a constant supporter and mentor to all that have crossed your path over the course of your amazing career and everyone who knows you, has nothing but respect and admiration for you.

Thank you for being you, Dr. Smith.
With much love,
Debbie >>

Christian G. Chaussy
MD, HonFRCSEd: Chairman Emeritus, Dept. Urology, Klinikum Harlaching; Professor of Urology, University of Munich, Germany; Professor of Urology, University of Regensburg, Germany; Clinical Professor of Urology, Keck School of Medicine, USC, Los Angeles, California, USA

I met Arthur when the Endourological Society was founded in 1985 and learned to appreciate and respect him. From the very beginning I was impressed by his professionalism, engagement, enthusiasm, commitment, and vision. Even more impressive was – when Tina and I met Kay – how the two communicated. From then, high respect turned into a longterm friendship which let us every time we met, already hope for the next get-together. We are proud to know Kay and Arthur; we are happy to call them friends and we love them. >>

Ben H. Chew
MD, MSc, FRCSC: Associate Professor of Urologic Sciences, University of British Columbia; The Stone Centre at Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, BC, Canada

My first direct interaction with Dr. Smith was when I was a fellow presenting a project on in vivo
CT imaging of stones. As a pilot project, it may not have been the best of science, but I was keen to present it along with other projects at the AUA. The first question from the audience came from Dr. Smith who stood at the microphone and simply stated, “So what?”. A long pause ensued with him staring at me awaiting a response. I didn’t know what to say as I was so taken aback. After almost making me cry on stage several years ago, today I now ask myself every time I start a project, “so what?”. Is what I am doing going to change anything or improve our knowledge? It has been a tenet that has guided me in my research to this day. I would like to thank Dr. Smith for being the grandfather of our great subspecialty and only he could so eloquently guide this researcher with two simple words, “so what”? 

The first time I met Dr. Smith was as a junior resident, at one of my very first AUA meetings. After presenting a series on the utility of interventional radiology-directed access where I quoted his articles liberally, a well-dressed man with a cultured accent stopped me in the hallway to exchange a few words, complimenting me on the presentation before moving on. One of my senior residents came up and said to me, “I didn’t know you knew Art Smith!” Apparently I didn’t know I knew him either, but that was one of the brief interactions in life that made such a strong impression on me and was part of what moved me to pursue endourology. It is inspiring to see a urologist that has accomplished so much, changed the landscape of a field so significantly, and yet still be able to take a few minutes of their day to pass some kind words to an anonymous junior resident. These are the footsteps of a true giant, and it’s been a privilege to have been impacted by their imprint.

Thomas Chi  
MD: Assistant Professor, Associate Director for Clinical Affairs, Department of Urology, University of California, San Francisco, USA

The first time I met Dr. Smith was as a junior resident, at one of my very first AUA meetings. After presenting a series on the utility of interventional radiology-directed access where I quoted his articles liberally, a well-dressed man with a cultured accent stopped me in the hallway to exchange a few words, complimenting me on the presentation before moving on. One of my senior residents came up and said to me, “I didn’t know you knew Art Smith!” Apparently I didn’t know I knew him either, but that was one of the brief interactions in life that made such a strong impression on me and was part of what moved me to pursue endourology. It is inspiring to see a urologist that has accomplished so much, changed the landscape of a field so significantly, and yet still be able to take a few minutes of their day to pass some kind words to an anonymous junior resident. These are the footsteps of a true giant, and it’s been a privilege to have been impacted by their imprint.

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Vicki Cohn  
Executive Vice President & Editorial Director, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers, USA

Arthur, Ralph, and I shook hands on a plan to launch Journal of Endourology over oysters and beer 29 years ago—and life has never been quite the same for me! Arthur is truly the King of Endourology. His energy, firm convictions, and insistence on excellence and what is best for the society, the journal, and the Endourology community around the globe has always been right on target. My very fondest congratulations, Arthur, on this auspicious occasion.

Dr. Marius C. Conradie  
Laparoscopic & Robotic Urological Surgeon; President, Southern African Endourology Society; President, WCE 2016; Netcare Waterfall City Hospital, Midrand, South Africa

Full circle…  
Arthur Smith, known as the “Father of Endourology” was born in South Africa and grew up in Durban in none other than Sir Arthur road. Looking back, this was possibly the first sign of his forthcoming prominence. After completing his studies as a Urologist, Arthur decided to further his career in the USA.

It wasn’t too long before Arthur rose to prominence and was widely accepted as one of the pioneering surgeons in Endourology.

Our paths fatuously crossed years later in 2008 when we met during South Africa’s biannual Urology Association meeting. I invited him back to the continent of his birth to share his wealth of knowledge. An even more fruitful meeting followed in 2010, which prompted me to bid for the World Congress of Endourology in 2016. This was
a proud moment for any African as it was the first time that the WCE would be hosted in Africa.

I am filled with hope and expectation that the knowledge arising from this event will be propagated throughout the African continent.

As South Africans, our hearts burst with pride when we look at the contribution made by men like Arthur Smith. I place him alongside fellow countryman Christian Barnard who performed the first human heart transplant and in so doing, etched his name in stone for history to regard. Prominence is often the product of intelligence, dedication, innovation and leadership—all of which Arthur has in abundance. Thank you, Arthur, for being the unseen catalyst for aspiration to many South African urologists.

Never a dull moment with Arthur!

I attended around 1994 a meeting organized in Jerusalem. It was at that occasion that I met Arthur Smith and his jolly good fellow Gopal Badlani for the very first time. It must have been love at first sight since from then onwards Arthur left a kind of footprint in my DNA. Since then I have learned that Arthur has many faces including that of the loving husband, dedicated mentor to his fellows, a friend, a perfect organizer, a fighter that never quits, and an inspiration to many.

How does it come that Arthur is so successful in doing what he has been doing all his life long? The answer is captured in the picture from one of our first meetings: With Arthur there is never a dull moment.

Dr. Janak D. Desai
MS, MCh: Chief of Urology Service, Samved Hospital, Ahmedabad, India

I trained under Dr. Smith in 1988 and soon thereafter started a very prolific endourology program in Ahmedabad, India. Dr. Smith is instrumental in disseminating the understanding of endourology in India, in fact, the entire world. He took endourology congresses to different countries and for almost 20 years guided the society as a President, from infancy to a mature robust society. For me he is my mentor and a real hero, but despite his stature, he never throws around his weight when we are on a panel and he is the moderator. Actually, he encourages you to discuss a particular situation and gives you your due on the podium. This has been very reassuring and very helpful to younger urologists who have begun to show up in academic circuits. He was quick to congratulate me for the UMP (Ultra-Mini PCNL) concept but very subtly told me that “when you are passionate about things you will tend to overlook the shortcomings”. Renal stones and their problems were hidden in the night; God said “let Arthur be” and all was light.

I wish him many more years of globe trotting to keep the flame of endourology burning in all the continents and stimulating youngsters to do better and better endoscopic surgeries to mitigate pain & suffering afflicting mankind.
Arthur Smith, “My Guru”
The 80’s began a New era for stone management and suddenly from open surgery to a minimal invasive surgery like ESWL, PCNL, and Ureteroscopy was born. We had achieved the excellence in open surgery by way of doing 100 cases of Anatomic Nephrolithotomy which suddenly lost the relevance. Question came to us which treatment should be adapted first. ESWL was least invasive but very expensive and took a long time to clear the stone. We settled on PCNL after seeing Joe Segura’s paper on 1000 PCNL with 98% result. It was our fortune that we attended the Karlsruhe conference in Germany and for the first time we met Prof. Arthur Smith. He did a course where he made us familiar with the equipment. We saw his technique, clarity of thoughts and confidence and the results which attracted us to adapt it as it carried highest clearance with minimum cost.

It was our fortune that Arthur visited Mumbai and demonstrated live technique of PCNL in 1984. It did not take us long to convince ourselves that this is the technique for us to start with. His boldness and courage was infectious and I started PCNL in India in 1995. I have modified and used Ultrasound—guided puncture. After 15 years he complemented that I have contributed to Endourological Society by showing the Ultrasound technique of puncture when I was showing PCNL in ectopic kidney. I was very happy when he showed his confidence in me and asked me to conduct Video Urology Conference in Goa, India, within 9 months and of course this was followed by World Congress on Endourology and ESWL in 2004 at Mumbai, India. Guru is the one who inspires which I did by reducing the tract and developed Microperc. I have developed great regards for his global commitment, his friendship and his love. Arthur and Kay, have changed our life. Nalini and I can never forget it. He appreciated Jayramdas Patel Academic Centre, Nadiad, Gujarat, India which was the end result of World Congress at Mumbai for skilled training. I wish him a healthy and long life. >>

Caner Dinlenc
MD, MBA, FACS: Arthur Smith Fellow 1999–2000, President, Medical Board of Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Physician-in-Charge, Endourology and Robotic Surgery; Director, Urology Residency Program; Associate Professor of Urology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

There are great surgeons and there’s Arthur Smith. Restless and relentless in his pursuit of newer and better surgical techniques, Arthur is equally regarded as a teacher. Bringing together not only his dozens of residents and fellows but also surgeons worldwide to join him on his crusade. Far from the “End-of-Urology” he helped broaden the entire field of urology. Numberless patients and surgeons have benefitted from his material contributions. Thank you, Arthur, for your wisdom and kindness, and thank you, Kay for supporting him. >>

David A. Duchene
MD, FACS: Associate Professor of Urology, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas, USA

Dr. Arthur Smith is a great visionary and leader in the world of Endourology. His development of the percutaneous nephrolithotomy procedure and his continued pursuit of new technologies have allowed the field to continually evolve. His leadership in our subspecialty is one of the main reasons that I decided to pursue a fellowship in Endourology. Dr. Smith has been a mentor for me in my duties as a section editor for the Journal of Endourology. He has
continually encouraged me to make the section of “New Technologies in Endourology” more robust with emphasis on young researchers publishing new ideas. This has allowed Endourology to stay at the forefront of development. I owe him a great deal of gratitude as does every other member of the Endourological Society. Dr. Smith, thank you. >>

Brian Duty
MD: Assistant Professor, Department of Urology, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, Oregon, USA

I had the good fortune of being Dr. Smith’s fellow in 2010. It goes without saying I was incredibly impressed by his contributions to the field of minimally invasive urology. As I have gotten to know him better I have come to admire Dr. Smith more for his character than his achievements. It is truly remarkable for someone so accomplished to remain so humble. He clearly takes great pride in helping advance the careers of those around him with little consideration for his own. I feel very lucky to have benefited from his generosity and to have such a wonderful mentor to strive to emulate. >>

Sammy E. Elsamra
MD: Assistant Professor of Surgery (Urology), Assistant Program Director, Urology Residency, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

Socially acceptable signs of public affection among co-workers include shaking hands, hugging, and a pat on the back. More recently high-fiving and fist-bumping have also found their way into such norms. And while wrapping one’s hands around a person’s neck, squeezing, and shaking certainly don’t appear like signs of affection, in this one instance from Dr. Smith, it was. You see, after 7 years of being away from the Garden State, I was anxious to attain a job in New Jersey and nearly signed onto a private practice. When Dr. Smith caught word of this, he immediately called me (he never calls me unless he had a research idea or needed a power point edited in short order) and left a long voicemail commanding me not to sign anything. I still have the voicemail. The very next day we met, he strangled me and effectively pulled me by the ear into Dr. Kavoussi’s office, where they both proceeded to call the chief of urology at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and insist that I be offered a position.

In fact, Dr. Smith took the liberty to guarantee that I would not disappoint. Despite not having a salary line or even a defined need for another endourologist, their phone call created and secured the position I always desired as a medical student. Since my appointment, I have brought on many of the techniques learned under Dr. Smith to RWJ where I pass them down to my residents. I have also brought on the confidence and courage pervasive at the Smith Institute to every one of my cases and it is infectious. I have become the go-to urologist for anyone with a connection to the hospital and this is largely due to the emotional intelligence, work-ethic, and courage I learned from Dr. Smith. Thank you for being such a great mentor, Dr. Smith!

P.S. The private practice group I nearly joined had both junior partners leave on poor terms nearly a year into my tenure. Thanks for saving my behind in and out of the OR, Dr. Smith! >>

Jerry French
Sr. Vice President, Urology Global Business Unit Leader, Cook Medical Incorporated (retired)

From the beginning of the era of Endourology, Arthur always saw the importance of the relationship between industry and the medical professional and how that would lead to better outcomes and patient care. Dr. Smith sought solutions, encouraged creativity, demanded perfection and embraced everyone around him.
Working with him is an opportunity to learn, knowing him is an experience, to be a colleague, a patient, a friend makes you fortunate.

Justin I. Friedlander
MD: Assistant Professor of Urology, Director of Endourology and Comprehensive Kidney Stone Center, Einstein Healthcare Network / Fox Chase Cancer Center

As a junior resident my more senior colleagues assigned me to scrub with Dr. Smith, as we did not have an Endourology fellow that year. I’m sure he would have preferred a more seasoned first assistant, but I was the lucky recipient of being able to soak up his knowledge and skills firsthand for hundreds of surgical cases. His passion for Endourology was contagious and it didn’t take long for me to realize that I, too, wanted to focus my career on stones. I will always remember Dr. Smith’s playful teasing when struggling to basket a stone, as well as his delight at the sound of those same stones clinking into the specimen cup. It was an honor to learn from such a truly exceptional surgeon and person. He was a great mentor and teacher and his love of urology and for his patients remains an inspiration as I continue my own practice. Dr. Smith — thank you not only for your contributions to our field but also for your support for my career.

Michele Gallucci
MD: Chair of Oncologic Urology Department, “Regina Elena” National Cancer Institute, Rome

I met Arthur Smith in the early 80s when, at the end of the WCE meeting in Paris, Arthur and his wife were looking for a transfer to the Airport. We took them with us in the Italian bus. Together with Paolo Puppo we were the “Italians” of the Endourological Society. In 1993, immediately after the meeting in Florence, we spent some unforgettable days together in Rome. I remember that he thought that truffle was an ice cream; I was obliged to push him to taste the “pasta with tartufo” to convince him that it was an expensive tuber. Arthur has been my true mentor. He was chair at Singapore when I presented my original technique on antegrade endopyelotomy and I remember perfectly his comments and suggestions to report that experience on a peer-reviewed journal. Since that time, I have been involved in any roundtable on the endopyelotomy. This was something impossible for a young urologist in Italy. Thanks Arthur for your support, for your friendship and for your outstanding contribution to the entire urological community of the 20th century.

Matthew Gettman
MD: Vice-Chair, Department of Urology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA

Dear Dr. Smith, thank you for your innovative spirit and courage to forever change the field of
urology. Thank you for giving me the subspecialty in which I practice and the innumerable benefits that I can now provide to my patients as a result of your leadership. I wish you the very best for a wonderful retirement. As you cross this important milestone, rest assured that your legacy will live on forever. >>

Inderbir S. Gill
MD: University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA

Not many can stake a claim that they brought into existence a whole new subspecialty. From scratch. Art can!

Over the years, I did not have the privilege to formally train or work with him. But one does not need to have worked with Art to feel his impact. I can only imagine his younger days! Riveted by his novel concept, unsure about its success, at the same time being critiqued by many, I visualize Art being a whirlwind of activity, creativity and just plain adrenaline-generated chutzpah...after all, there was no predicting what would happen if you put a big hole in the kidney and started poking around!

Over the years, I have had multiple, substantial chats with Art, always engaging, always positive, always stimulating. His comments are candid, being at the same time in-the-trenches and inspirational.

Art conceived the Endourological Society, husbanding it over the past 25 or so years, to now having over 2,500 devotees. And he has impacted a legion of trainees. Not many can stake such a claim!

Art, hats-off to your chutzpah, to your ingenuity, to your persistence, to your decades-long leadership. Urology is the winner for it. Our patients are too.

With deep admiration,
Inderbir S. Gill, MD >>

Peter J. Gilling
MD, FRACS: Professor of Surgery, University of Auckland, Bay of Plenty Clinical School, Tauranga, New Zealand

Arthur is a friend and mentor whose support I have valued over the last 25 years. Always willing to try new techniques and technologies and pioneering plenty of his own, Arthur has made a meaningful and lasting contribution to the specialty of urology. I believe the Endourological Society itself is one of his greatest achievements. I hope his contributions will continue for a while longer as he remains an engaged, thoughtful, and provocative colleague! >>

Stavros Gravas
MD: Associate Professor of Urology, Department of Urology, University Hospital of Larissa, Larissa, Greece

Dr. Arthur Smith is a person known by every generation of urologists worldwide. He has been a true transformer of endourology, an inspirational leader, teacher and mentor, which assures that his legacy will endure and grow.

Although I was not one of the numerous urologists who were trained by him, I have had the privilege of knowing for more than 10 years. One of the most important things I learned from him is that our greatest contribution as a faculty member is not going to be the literature but it’s going to be to our trainees and residents. Dr. Smith is very skilled at weaving into almost any discussion, even those with colleagues and friends, concepts related to education and training.

When I served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Endourological Society I also had the opportunity to take important lessons from him. I was really impressed and influenced by Dr. Smith’s ability to bridge different opinions and guide us to reach the right decision.

IN LIVING TRIBUTE: ARTHUR D. SMITH, MD
I am thankful to write these words in honor of Dr. Smith. However, actions speak louder than words and Dr. Smith’s career has been full of actions.

Prof. Dr.
Andreas Gross
Chefarzt, Abteilung für Urologie

Mantu Gupta
MD: Chairman of Urology, Mount Sinai West; Chairman of Urology, Mount Sinai St. Luke’s; Director of Endourology, Mount Sinai Health Care System; Director, Mount Sinai Kidney Stone Center; Professor of Urology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York, USA

Arthur Smith has touched so many lives, including mine. He has been my inspiration to go into academics, to publish, to be the best surgeon I can be, and to always have perspective on what is important; i.e., to strike a balance between a professional career, a family, a social life, and personal health. He teaches by example, being exemplary in how he conducts himself, how he interacts with colleagues, residents, students, fellows, and how he has made his family part of everyone’s family. Knowing he is there, to be

on relied upon for advice, both in professional and non-professional matters, has been comforting and has given me peace of mind. His humility is without compare; one would never know how famous he is or what he has achieved, through sheer hard work, motivation, dedication, and innovation. His enthusiasm for what he does comes through in everything he does and has motivated others to be the best they can be. His integrity is irreproachable; he is living proof that great things can be achieved by a clean, simple, honest approach to life and work. His dedication to Kay, his children, and grandchildren has shown to me that having a stable, loving family life and a successful career need not be contradictory. This is why, when I graduated fellowship, I wrote these words that remain true to this day: Arthur, you are my guru, in all walks of life.

Jorge Gutierrez-Aceves
MD: Professor, Director of Endourology, Wake Forest Medical Center, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA

Arthur is an Innovator, Visionary, Educator, Mentor, Leader, and overall, a wonderful Man and a Friend. Arthur’s visionary mind lead him to create the Endourological Society in 1984, today the largest subspecialty society worldwide. Over more than 32 years the Endo Society has spread the education not only of endourology and minimal invasive surgery, but also, of most of the urological disciplines around the world. Only a visionary mind could be inclusive and could understand that the education of endourology and urology in general had to be global, around all continents, and most importantly, where education was needed. Arthur has guided many urologists to reach their goals, he opened the door to many young urologists that had the dream to follow his vision, many of them over the years have become the support of the society that he created.

In a personal level, he opened the door for me and helped me grow to a level that I may not have dreamed about. Even now, he friendly keeps me
on track and gives me guidelines to reach my goals. Every time I need his help he gladly assists and supports me, he always gives so very generously of his time, knowledge and patience.

Arthur is a great mentor and a better Friend. Let’s celebrate with him. >>

Ashok K. Hemal
MD, MCh, FACS, FRCS: Professor, Department of Urology, Comprehensive Cancer Center, Professor Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine; Chair, Robotics Committee, Baptist Medical Center; Fellowship Director, Robotics and Minimally Invasive Surgery; Fellowship Co-Director, Endourology, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center & Wake Forest School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA

Pillar of Urology Community
Arthur is a true pillar of our Endo-Urology. With his pioneering and seminal efforts this field was conceived and brought into a reality changing patients care all across the globe. We all know he is enormously talented, full of wisdom, insights, judgment, warmth, and humor, which make him a completely wonderful person. The thing that I remember most about Arthur while meeting with him on several occasions, he is highly encouraging and inspiring with his unique style of always teaching coupled with infectious smile, gentle wit, charm, and kindness besides his selfless services. >>

David M. Hoenig
MD: Professor, Smith Institute for Urology, Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine, Hempstead, New York, USA

Regardless of what you believe, we, as humans, all have the same ultimate ancestor when you go back far enough. In a similar way, Arthur Smith has my profound and eternal thanks for the incredible impact he’s had on me and my professional career. I have him to thank for the pioneering of techniques which are one cornerstone of our subspecialty of Endourology, for the mentorship of Ralph Clayman—one of the first he inspired along this path, for the introduction to Arnold Melman and 14 great years at Montefiore/Albert Einstein, and most recently for my transition to the Institute which is named in his honor.

I consider myself fortunate in the extreme for all these reasons, and for the friendship, mentorship, and inspiration he’s given to me over my professional life. Many and sincere thanks, Arthur. >>

R. John Honey
MD, MSc, FRCSC: Professor, Department of Surgery; Director, Kidney Stone Centre/Lithotripsy Suite; Researcher, Keenan Research Centre, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute; St. Michael’s Hospital, University of Toronto, Canada

There is no doubt that Arthur Smith is the reason that I am now an endourologist.

We both emigrated from southern Africa, Arthur from South Africa to the United States in 1977. Only 3 years later, while doing a reconstructive fellowship, I watched John Wickham in London remove a stone percutaneously and I was fascinated to hear about the new subspecialty developed by Arthur and the name ‘Endourology’ which he had introduced. With Arthur’s inspiration I started performing percutaneous nephrolithotomies in 1981.

I attended the first World Congress of Endourology and there I had the privilege of meeting Arthur for the first time. I have attended every World Congress and have met Arthur on each occasion. With encouragement from him I developed an Endourology Fellowship which was later approved by the Endourological Society.

Arthur has been so kind and encouraging throughout my Endourology career and offered
me tremendous guidance and support when I was the Scientific Program Chairman for the 21st World Congress of Endourology in Montreal in 2003. As well as founding the Journal of Endourology he of course introduced and edited his ‘Smith Textbook of Endourology’ to which I have had the honour to contribute.

For over 35 years Arthur Smith has led the world of Endourology and we have all benefited enormously.

Michel Jabbour
MD, MBA: Professor and Chief of Urology, Saint George Hospital, Balamand University, Beirut, Lebanon

When I first arrived to LIJ to do my Fellowship with Doctor Arthur Smith in July 1997, I was so anxious. I was a foreign graduate from Lebanon, a small country far away, coming for an Endourology Fellowship under a world renowned urologist. I was afraid I wouldn’t be up to his expectations.

It did not take me long to realize that the one thing Arthur has bigger than his reputation was his heart. Arthur was not only a great teacher; he was a mentor and a father. And now, almost 20 years from that date, I know I can always count on his support and advice whenever I need one.

Arthur, God bless you.

William K. Johnston III
MD: Associate Professor, Beaumont School of Medicine

I had the pleasure of first meeting Dr. Smith as a resident interviewing for fellowship in Endourology over a decade ago. The cliché of a man that wears many hats could not have been more fitting.

A Professor, an innovator, a pioneer of minimally invasive surgery, with endless friends and family, of which, I would bump into in my travels for years to come all around the world — all lifelong admirers of Dr. Smith.

Yet clinically, here was a passionate yet precise surgeon, determined to rid his patient of every last pebble with a complex staghorn through multiple accesses, if needed! After which, he stood guard, assuring patient passage from first breath, to bed, to PACU, before reassuring the family…no time to pause, but in a smooth shuffle, off to help clean the operating theater and start the process all over again, and again, and again, tirelessly.

Best wishes with whichever hat you decide to wear tomorrow!

Adrian D. Joyce
MS FRCS (Urol): Consultant Urological Surgeon, St James’ University Hospital, Leeds, UK; Past President, British Association of Urological Surgeons

I first met Arthur when I was arranging the Scientific Programme for the Edinburgh WCE meeting over 20 years ago. You were always “up for a challenge” and keen to look at new ideas but knew how to turn a good programme into a great one. Like many, you have had a major impact on my career in Endourology, and I have really valued your mentorship and guidance over those years. Lizzy and I are very fortunate to have you and Kay as friends and look forward to catching up with you in November in Cape Town.
rare individuals whose passion for innovation, boundless energy and extraordinary vision has paved the way for major advances. His commitment to minimizing patient morbidity has permanently transformed the surgical landscape. He has inspired countless students, residents, fellows and practicing physicians to constantly question the status quo and strive to improve our craft. His “can-do” attitude is infectious and obvious love of urology palpable.

I am fortunate to have been one of the multitude whose career has been influenced by Arthur. As a resident I read about his innovative approaches. Through Ralph Clayman’s eyes, I witnessed Arthur’s drive and excitement of discovery. As a chairman I benefit from his wisdom. Thank you, Arthur, for all you have done for me, our colleagues and most importantly our patients.

Prof. Dr. Thomas Knoll
Chairman, Department of Urology, Klinikum Sindelfingen-Boeblingen, University of Tuebingen, Germany

One of the godfathers of endourology and a great guy.

Bodo E. Knudsen
MD, FRCSC: Henry A. Wise II Endowed Chair in Urology, Director, OSU Comprehensive Kidney Stone Program, Vice-Chair, Clinical Affairs, Department of Urology, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio, USA

Before I had the privilege of first meeting Dr. Smith, I must admit I was somewhat intimidated by him. Being one of the true fathers of Endourology, I had read many of his manuscripts and chapters as a resident and fellow. I also had the opportunity to see him speak at both the AUA and World Congress of Endourology. However, it was a few years later, once I had become a faculty member at the Ohio State University, that finally got to meet Dr. Smith one on one. The person I met was extremely welcoming, kind, and interested in my own career. There were no barriers, only someone that clearly cared deeply about the field of Endourology. He immediately opened up several doors and provided opportunities for me to contribute to the field. Since then, he has always been helpful and supportive and a true model for what an Endourologist should strive for. I feel extremely fortunate to have been able to get to know Dr. Smith.

Apichat Kongkanand
MD, FACS: Secretary General of 19th World Congress on Endourology, Bumrungrad International Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

It is my great pleasure to be part of the book tribute to Arthur Smith. It is more than any feeling that I would be able to express the gratitude to him.

We had 19th World Congress on Endourology (WCE) in Bangkok, Thailand, and how wonderful memory, he raised the level of education in Endourology and minimal invasive surgery for Thai Urology World.

Those days, he could have only few assistants like Michele Paoli and Prof. Gopal H. Badlani.

On behalf of the Thai Urology community.

I would like to thank him again for all he has done to Thailand including recent 27th World Congress on Videourology in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

My best wishes.
It’s hard to put into words how lucky I feel to have “The Smith Institute for Urology” printed across my lab coat. No one can deny Dr. Smith’s vast knowledge, his forward thinking mind that has led to such innovation, and his overall breadth of accomplishment. He is nothing less than a legend. What makes him and his beautiful, intelligent, wonderful wife Kay so special, is their love—both of each other and the world around them. I look up to them both so very much. I came to New York for fellowship never intending to stay. Dr. Smith has helped in making New York my home and making me feel like family. There are few greater gifts. No one is more deserving of this tribute. >>

A Festschrift

Like most endourologists all over the world, my association with this remarkable personality dates back to the early days of my urological career. I had heard the name from my mentors. I was eager and apprehensive to meet him. I was standing near my poster. He tapped on my shoulder and said ‘good work, send it to the Journal!’ Our acquaintance was brief but had a long-lasting impact on me. Having known Arthur and being involved with the Endourological society over 2 decades, I have been impressed with his quest for innovation and improvement. He has been hugely supportive to my own section. His advice, suggestions and contribution to my stent book have been invaluable. A remarkable man with vision, dedicated to innovation, a realist and an achiever. A genuine individual, who has the ability to inspire. The practice of surgery has changed over the past centuries due to some great thinkers. Arthur Smith is one of these giants. >>

Mr. Ravi Kulkarni
MS, FRCS: Consultant Urological Surgeon, Ashford and St Peter’s Hospital Foundation Trust, Chertsey, Surrey, UK

Arthur Smith, the ‘Founding Father’ of Endourology...

My initial interest in Endourology dates back to 1985, when I came across his name in percutaneous nephrolithotomy literature. As I knew him better over the years, I developed a feeling of awe. My first WCE experience was at the 3rd meeting in Vienna, where I had the opportunity to meet and know Arthur and other Board Members more closely. In the following years, I became a close follower of the Journal of Endourology and a frequent attendee of the World Congresses of Endourology. I vividly remember being within the crowds surrounding Arthur in kind of a race to have a word with him or ask him questions. It has impressed me and many of us that he would take time to talk to each and everyone in those crowds, and he would always do this in a ‘fatherly’ manner.

We had the pleasure of hosting the meeting ‘What is New in Percutaneous Surgery’ in Istanbul in 2010. After a successful meeting with great attendance, my wife and I spent one of the best and memorable weeks of our lives with Arthur and his dear wife Kay. At the end of that week, we realized that the saying ‘Behind every successful man, there is a woman’ was true in the Smith family with Kay’s tremendous support for her beloved husband. Arthur is much more than that...He is a loving husband, caring father, a great friend and a citizen of Earth.

As the Endourology Family, we are blessed to have him as a leader and we couldn’t be more proud of him. >>

Ali Riza Kural
MD: Professor in Urology, Acibadem University, Urology Department, Istanbul, Turkey

Jessica E. Kreshover
MD, MS: Arthur Smith Institute for Urology, Director of Medical Student Education; Assistant Professor, Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine, Hempstead, New York, USA
Having entered residency in 1993, Dr. Smith’s preeminence as a urologist was already well established. Indeed, my contemporaries and I have never known a urological world that did not include the leadership of Dr. Smith, thanks to his pioneering role in Endourology.

Over the years I have been inspired by Dr. Smith’s passion for Endourology and innovation, and, as with many other young urologists, this sparked my interest in becoming an “Endourologist.” Having had the privilege of knowing him over the years, Dr. Smith’s role in my life has transitioned from one of inspiration to now mentor and friend.

I am delighted to be part of this celebration. Few physicians in academics engender the passion/affection needed to create an international Festschrift, especially one that is complemented by a written celebration of a distinguished career, authored by one’s colleagues and friends. Thank you, Arthur, for all you have done! The fertile ground which your hard work has created will reap rewards for future generations of urologists. I am grateful for all you have done for me and for so many others, and remain even more excited about your continued leadership. It has been, and remains, a great privilege to be your student.

To an incredible mentor and friend: Dr. Smith, thank you for opening my eyes to what’s possible and for always motivating me to work harder and push the limits.

Words cannot express my deep gratitude for how you have mentored me in my career, showed me how to travel the world through Endourology, and demonstrated how the passion and vision of 1 man can transform modern day surgery. You have demonstrated why every good idea is worth 3 trips around the world. First to demonstrate the new technique. Second to present the case series, and 3rd to say why we are not doing it anymore!

The milestone in my career is still the 31st World Congress of Endourology in New Orleans. From Mardi Gras World, to throwing beads from the float, to the special faculty dinner at the Audubon Tea Room, it was a special moment to share with the Endourology family which was an opportunity of a lifetime.

As we met in Paris for Challenges in Endourology, and then in Thailand for Videourology earlier this year, all I can say is that no matter where we are in the world, I am happy to fix your computer and recover your talks, as long as you can provide the password!!!
Thank you for all mentoring in my career. As I begin as Chief of Urology at the University of Arizona, one can only imagine what it must have been like moving from the comfort of South Africa, to Minnesota to New York all those years ago. You have demonstrated that the secret to success is not only a happy family at work, but a supportive wife and family at home.

I am forever indebted.

Ben

David Lee
MD, FACS: Associate Professor of Surgery/Urology, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania; Director of Robotic Urologic Surgery, Chief of Urology, Penn Presbyterian Medical Center; Member, Abramson Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Dr. Smith has been such an inspirational and pioneering physician in his magnificent career. Congratulations on the Festschrift! Truly well deserved and thank you for all your guidance and leadership toward all you have touched.

Evangelos N. Liatsikos
MD, PhD: Associate Professor, Department of Urology, University of Patras, Greece; ESUT chairman

I have known Arthur Smith since 1999 when I did my Fellowship in Endourology at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New York. He has been a mentor of mine throughout my career thereafter. Recalling my initial experience with this great man I find myself in exciting endless discussions arguing most of the times against every aspect of endourology. And the fact that a Professor of his high range was able to hear and argue against a junior fellow reveals a magnificent aspect of his character. Professor Arthur Smith is a pioneer because he was always open to change. He was always ready to hear every argument regardless if that was coming from a senior Professor or a medical student and was ready to question again and again even the most well established dogmas in urology. Apart from a wise father figure, Arthur serves as an ideal model on how a scientist should be and behave at its best.

Mary Ann Liebert
President and CEO, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers, New Rochelle, New York, USA

There is absolutely no way to describe the joy of knowing Arthur Smith personally and professionally, and the determination and uncompromising vision that he espouses.

The “You Tell Her No” story has been well told, but I still recall with a bit of astonishment, really, that although Arthur was totally opposed to my idea/plan to launch a journal in endourology, he may have considered me an irresistible force.

Over these many years, there have been countless meetings as well as dinners together (with good wines!), that my husband has also enjoyed immensely. Arthur’s elegant sartorial taste in jackets and ties must also be mentioned. Respect for Arthur’s professional stature has been absolute from the get-go; a personal friendship also evolved. It has been a delight to spend time with Arthur and Kay, sharing our love of music, theater, family, and even conversations about our political proclivities! Arthur, once he has a firm opinion, sticks to it, and isn’t shy about expressing it. No one tells a story better than Arthur, and he shares his travel observations with detail and humor. His self-deprecating wit is totally enjoyable, and I can easily picture the room he describes in his home that houses his many awards!
From the first days of our collaboration, Arthur had firm goals for the Journal, for the Society, and for the field, which were combined with the strong friendship, shared priorities, expertise, and complementary drive of Ralph Clayman. There were no obstacles that could not be overcome, no competition that was daunting enough to discourage any imperatives. Arthur has always had the long view; while there is much to be proud of for the current contribution that Journal of Endourology makes to better patient care, Arthur continuously looks to advance these technologies and their applications around the globe. With such strong imperatives, he has been able to move them forward amazingly well without alienating colleagues who might have allegiances elsewhere. His presidency of the Endourological Society, his co-editorship of the Journal, and the steadfast enabling of Videourology, attest not only to his vision and determination, but also to his success in achieving these goals. Arthur does not back down from challenges, and has a firm hand, both in and out of the OR!

That Arthur achieves both personal and professional success with unshining affection and admiration is remarkable. That I and members of our staff are part of this extraordinary journey is a privilege. Over these many years, we have celebrated victories and forged a friendship with Arthur which we dearly cherish.

Granville L. Lloyd
MD: Director of Robotic Surgery, Denver Veterans Hospital; Assistant Professor, Division of Urology, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, USA

My greatest impression of Professor Arthur Smith is one of a raw ability to ask “why not?” and to translate that question, that curiosity, into investigation, experimentation, science and creation. From the invention of antegrade ureteral stent placement and all the manipulations that followed that successful maneuver, into the development of an entire armamentarium of percutaneous tools and techniques to even the creation of the word “Endourology”, Dr. Smith’s career has been one of the greatest examples of creativity and innovation that one could dream. In an era of technology and device-driven progress, his career stands as a rare and powerful instance of what human-led collaboration and invention can achieve. It is an incredible honor and privilege to be a part of this celebration.

Brian R. Matlaga
MD, MPH: The Stephens Professor, James Buchanan Brady Urological Institute, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

My first encounter with Dr. Smith, beyond reading the eponymous endourology textbook, was at the first World Congress of Endourology I attended – 2002, in Genoa, Italy. At the time, I was a resident making my first research presentation at an international meeting. At the end of the podium session, as I was leaving the...
conference room, Dr. Smith reached out to me with a few more questions on my research project. As a resident, the opportunity to discuss my work with one of the fathers of endourology was incredibly special. On a larger level, though, this conversation perfectly encapsulated how Dr. Smith built so many bridges through our field. In the years since that time, I have come to know many more occasions where Dr. Smith has reached out and brought new surgeons and scientists into the field of endourology by engaging in thoughtful discussions and interactions. His excitement for the field is contagious, and one cannot help but become inspired from it.

Tadashi Matsuda
MD, PhD: President of the Endourological Society; Professor and Chairman, Department of Urology and Andrology; Vice Director, University Hospital; Vice Dean, Director and Councillor, Kansai Medical University, Japan

Congratulations on your Festschrift. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your great leadership as the Founding President of the Endourological Society while guiding our society for many years from its establishment in 1984. Your efforts have led to the development of a variety of endourological procedures and widespread use of minimally invasive urologic techniques around the world. I also thank you for your contribution to Japanese endourology. You visited Japan many times to teach PCNL procedures in the 1980s. Without your guidance, it would have been difficult to grow the use of new endourological procedures safely and widely in Japan.

Thank you again and I wish you and Kay everlasting health and happiness.

With warmest regards,

Tadashi Matsuda

Arthur Smith, MD Memories

There are so many wonderful memories of times shared with Arthur and Kay Smith, but one stands out in particular. On my way to the WCE Conference in Florence, Italy in October 1993 I had my roll-aboard luggage stolen in Rome. I only travel with a roll-aboard and a briefcase so just about everything I needed for the meeting was in that case and it was a devastating experience. Suffice to say that with the help of colleagues and friends it was a successful meeting despite this tenuous beginning. A week later I was Arthur Smith’s invited visiting professor at Long Island Jewish Hospital in New York. It was a delightful and stimulating visit, including wonderful meals and social events, with Arthur and Kay and all the faculty and residents in the program. At the end of my last presentation Arthur stood to thank me for my participation in the educational activities during my visit and present me with a gift to remember my LIJ experience. It was a personalized TUMI roll-aboard luggage! I was delighted and very touched that Arthur would so thoughtfully expunge my unpleasant experience of the previous week at the WCE conference. The roll-aboard has been my faithful companion on every journey over the past 23 years traveling to almost every continent in the world with me. It is a treasured travel mate and always reminds me of my especially kind and thoughtful friend, Arthur Smith.
The sign of a giant is one on whose shoulders others stand. An effective mentor motivates, supports and encourages, sometimes from the shadows and when needed from the frontline. Dr. Arthur Smith is that type of giant; whose legacy lies not only in his accomplishments but also in the accomplishments of all who he has motivated, supported and encouraged. >>

Professor Arthur Smith is the undisputed Father of Endourology. But he is much more than that; Dr. Smith remains a driving force for what is best for worldwide endourology and what is best for endourologists worldwide. More importantly, Arthur has been a father to me, specifically as it relates to the business of the Endourological Society. It has been a distinct honor to have worked alongside him the last 22 years. >>
A note on Professor Arthur David Smith

When I think of Professor Smith, I am reminded of the quote by the American poet Robert Frost on the subject of teachers. He said:

“There are two kinds of teachers: the kind that fills you with so much quail shot that you can’t move, and the kind that just gives you a little prod behind and you jump to the skies.”

To many others, Professor Smith is known as a great innovator, inventor, speaker, lecturer, surgeon, and physician. I am very fortunate to know him in a different light. He is the greatest motivator I have ever met. He has cultivated tremendous confidence and fearlessness and drive to solve the mysteries of our craft. One can, and would be right to say that I have cheated by having the master accessible to guide me day and night since the beginning of my career. It has been said that a great teacher is one that has insights about abilities that you didn’t know you had. I have had the tremendous good fortune to be directly mentored and taught all these years by Professor Smith and I certainly could not have accomplished as much as I have without his insightful prodding at the right time. Professor Arthur Smith, it is my honor to say a heartfelt congratulations on this great occasion. Thank you for letting me stand on your shoulders. I am forever indebted to you. >>

Zeph Okeke
MD: Associate Professor, Smith Institute for Urology, Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine, Hempstead, New York, USA

It is an honor to celebrate Dr. Arthur Smith’s lifetime academic achievements, a man whose work continues to have a vast impact on the field of Urology. I consider it a great privilege to call Dr. Smith my mentor. His role in my career has been pivotal, shaping much of what I have achieved today. I am extremely grateful for him taking me under his wing and for opening doors that I did not imagine were possible. I look forward to many more years of collaboration! >>

Michael Ost
MD: The Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

I’m honored to participate in this Festschrift marking your illustrious career. You are the “Father of Endourology”, and for better or worse, I will always be one of your “Endourology Sons”—part of a special lineage in academic urology. It has been over a decade since I left New York, having finished my adult fellowship training with you and Lou Kavoussi. Although some time has passed, the memories and experiences from the OR at LIJ remain clear and dear to me. Entire days of percutaneous renal surgeries with interesting conversation always made for memorable experiences. You imparted skill and I learned how to progress through a demanding day without reservation. I was always in awe of your handiness, stamina, and dedication to the field. I’m grateful for the time I spent with you. >>

Palle J.S. Osther
MD, PhD: Professor of Urology, Past President, EAU Section of Urolithiasis (EULIS), Director, Urological Research Center, Department of Urology, Lillebaelt Hospital, University of Southern Denmark, Fredericia, Denmark

The extraordinary contributions of Arthur Smith within the field of endourology – clinically as well...
Michele Paoli
Executive Director, Endourological Society, Inc., USA

Dr. Smith,
It was a little over 33 years ago. I was a newlywed. I can still remember walking into your office for an interview as a secretary. I was so nervous, but I really wanted to work at LIJ very much. Well… I did get the job. But I never could have imagined how much my life was going to change. I believe in everyone’s life, there is that one special person that truly makes a difference. For me, that person is you. I am certain that if not for you, I would not be where I am today. Words can never express my sincere gratitude for all that you have given me over these 33 years. You have not only taught me well, you have given me experiences that I shall never forget.

Shortly after starting my job, together with Drs. Segura, Clayman and Badlani, the Endourological Society was born, and I was so lucky to be a part of it…. and so, the journey began. Over the years, I have had many opportunities to see the world and work with some of the most amazing people. It has been, and continues to be, a joy to work with the members of this Society.

Under your guidance and direction, you allowed me to make mistakes and to learn from them. You were supportive and always encouraged me to do my best. You had confidence in me when I did not. Dr. Smith, it was you who helped me gain the confidence I needed to do my job to the best of my ability.

In the early years, when my children were young, I was able to work around their schedules, and for that I am forever grateful (even when you gave them chocolate!). I could not have done so without your support and trust to get the job done.

At the end of a difficult day, you would always say to me, “So, are we winning?” Well, Dr. Smith, you have surely won! You will always hold a special place in my heart.

With much respect and admiration,
Michele

Thanos Papatsoris
MD, MSc, PhD, FEBU, FES: Asst. Professor of Urology, University Department of Urology, Sismanoglio General Hospital, Athens, Greece

I met Professor Smith in 1999, during the 17th World Congress on Endourology and SWL in Rhodes. It was just after my graduation from the School of Medicine and the conversation with him inspired me to specialize in Urology and sub-specialize in Endourology. I’m so happy to meet him every year during the Endourology meetings and I admire his professionalism, his expertise and wisdom. I wish him and his wife all the best.

Thank you. Thanos

Gyan Pareek
MD: Associate Prof. of Surgery (Urology), Director of the Kidney Stone Center at The Miriam Hospital, Alpert Medical School, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA

Dr. Arthur Smith is a legendary figure in the field of Endourology who inspires me to teach, innovate and collaborate. Although I did not train under him, I have had the pleasure and honor to meet him and learn from his writings. Dr. Smith’s career is an inspiration and something that I hope to emulate as I continue to grow as an Endourologist.
When I was a resident interested in pursuing an Endourology fellowship, the two gods of endourology were Arthur Smith and Ralph Clayman. Although my path ultimately landed me in St. Louis, I had the great fortune to experience a brief, albeit transforming, visit to the father of Endourology in New Hyde Park, NY. Who knew that a man who launched a specialty could be so friendly, so passionate and so utterly embracing? That first impression of Arthur Smith has never proved wrong.

Arthur welcomed me, as a fledgling of Ralph Clayman, into “the club”, and over the years he has guided me, prodded me and admonished me to get more involved and to assume leadership responsibilities in the Endourological Society, to the point of hijacking my husband to persuade me to apply for the Secretary General position, which I did. Always inclusive and never divisive, Arthur is the greatest champion of Endourology worldwide. Regardless of where he is or what he is doing, the needs and interests of the Endourology Society seem to supersede all, whether looking for an opportunity to land a new member or a chance to bring endourology to a developing country. Our specialty and our Society will forever carry his imprint, and we have all benefitted from a little of his magic dust.

I have had the pleasure of getting to know Arthur and Kay personally over the last few years. His academic kudos are well known but I wanted to write a lot about my interactions with him. I will however, restrict my statement to one succinct phrase, and those of us privileged enough to know him personally will agree that he is one of a very rare breed: a true gentleman!

Arthur, it’s been a privilege and an honour.
With all best wishes,
Abhay

In addition to my professional relationship with Arthur, Jodi and I have shared many wonderful travels with him and Kay during various Endourology meetings across the world. Fortunately, our relationship has allowed Kay and Arthur to realize that it’s all about being true to purple wardrobe opportunities!

Arthur, you are truly the Father of Endourology and we all appreciate your continued support and guidance of our careers. We look forward to many additional chances to work together in promoting Endourology and minimally invasive urologic surgery.

I first met Arthur when I was a Fellow in 1985 and he was hosting the 3rd World Congress of Endourology in NYC. Since that time, Arthur has served as a mentor for my Urologic career, as a prime example of innovation and scholarship. Moreover, I was honored to work with him and other leaders in Endourologic education, first as a junior faculty member in the early AUA Endourology Courses, culminating in my current position of Chair of Education for the Society. Arthur’s drive to bring minimally invasive surgical training in Urology to all parts of the globe remains as fervent as it was in 1980 when he founded the Endourological Society. I have been honored to be just a small part of his vision to make Endourology an integral part of all Urologic training.

In Living Tribute: Arthur D. Smith, MD

Abhay Rane
OBE, MS, FRCS(Urol): Professor of Urology, East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, Surrey, UK

Glenn M. Preminger
MD: Professor and Chief, Urologic Surgery, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, USA

Margaret S. Pearle
MD, PhD: Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Urology, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, USA

IN LIVING TRIBUTE: ARTHUR D. SMITH, MD
King Arthur – the Father of Endourology

Arthur Smith was definitely not the inventor or pioneer of Endourology unlike, John Wickham, Peter Alken or Enrique Perez-Castro. However, without any doubts he is the “Father of Endourology”! Starting with the organization of the 3rd World Congress of Endourology 1985 in New York, he developed this meeting together with the Endourological Society as a valid platform for all urologists’ interest in this fascinating field of medicine. Indeed, he created a family with his brothers Ralph Clayman and Joe Segura and his sons or nephews Glenn Preminger, John Denstedt, David Tolley, Gopal Badlani, Mahesh Desai, Tadashi Matsuda, Allen Chiu, Jens Rassweiler, and so many others.

All of them chaired the WCE-meeting as presidents, however, he also inspired the next generation of endourologists of whom the most prominent had the privilege to receive the Arthur Award, namely Manoj Monga, Evangelos Liatsikos, Olivier Traxer, Thomas Knoll, Jaime Landman along with many others.

But what is the secret of success for all of that. In my view of the last 30 years, it is the personality to offer his friendship to all of those young and old urologists being infected by the virus of endourology. Friendship means reliability and empathy over all these decades.

Arthur, thank you for being our friend!

Jens

The first time I met Dr. Smith was in Bangkok; during World Congress of Endourology in 2001. I was pursuing fellowship in US and on subsequent year, I started fellowship at Johns Hopkins under the proctorship of Drs. Louis Kavoussi and Thomas Jarrett. Dr. Jarrett has undergone fellowship training under Dr. Smith and Dr. Kavoussi’s mentor is Dr. Ralph Clayman, which makes me a “grandson” / “great-grandson”! Now the family is worldwide, I have trained more than 30 fellows from Korea and other countries, including Japan, China, Taiwan, Philipines, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Singapore, Greece and Egypt. We all owe so much to Dr. Smith’s vision to start a new and everlasting field of Endourology and will be our mentor forever. It is so important and reassuring that Dr. Smith always oversees our love, Endourology during AUA Society of Engineering meetings, Video Urology and of course World Congress of Endourology meetings. Thank you Dr. Smith.

Lee Richstone

Dear Arthur,

It is a true delight to celebrate your career and honor your tremendous contribution to Urology with this Festschrift! In your home country...and on safari no less! Wow!

Arthur, it is no exaggeration to say that you are a legend in your own time, a giant among men. So few in the history of urology have made such an impact. So many residents and fellows have been inspired by you, so many techniques pioneered by you...societies and journals founded by you. All of this runs parallel with your great sense of humor, your warmth, and palpable desire to see others succeed around you. I am so fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from you, work alongside you, and have you as a friend.

So Arthur, CONGRATULATIONS for all you have achieved and THANK YOU for all you have given to us. It occurs to me that while out on safari, Arthur, it will not be the zebras, elephants, or giraffes that serve as the rare or unusual sightings. YOU are the truly unique and exotic one, a true one-of-a-kind, THE KING OF THE ENDOUROLOGICAL JUNGLE!

With the deepest respect,

Lee Richstone
Bradley Schwartz  
DO, FACS: Professor, Urology, Southern Illinois University, Springfield, Illinois, USA

Thank you very much for your contributions to our specialty. Your innovations and insights will benefit generations to come. Your carbon footprint is bigger than you realize. Thank you.}

Arieh Shalhav  
MD: Comprehensive Cancer Research Center, Director of Robotic Surgery, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Art is the ultimate Mensch who is also an innovator with endless energy, relentlessly pursuing excellence. At everything. This translates to compassion for his patients and trainees, out of the box thinking of new and better ways of healing. Courage to leave his comfort zone to invent or adopt new and promising techniques for our profession. A cheerful lover of people and life, and lucky as he found Kay. As for many others, Art has been a mentor and a constant supporter of my career and together with Kay became dear Friends. Congratulations on this celebration of a prolific life, we all love you.

Dr. Yinghao Sun  
President, Second Military Medical University (SMMU); Honorary Director and Professor, Department of Urology, Shanghai Changhai Hospital, SMMU, China

Dr. Arthur Smith, the founder of Endourological Society, is my mentor. He has established special ties with Chinese Urology since his first visit to China in 1991. He has paid special efforts to the development of Urology in China and offered his support and help selflessly. He is the one who brought Journal of Endourology and WCE to China, which laid a solid foundation for the internationalization of Chinese Urology. He travelled thousands of miles to teach Chinese urologists in a number of cities about the experiences and techniques in the treatment of urinary stones. He has made tremendous contribution for the development of endourology in China. He is admired and respected by all urologists because of his persistent pursuit of career, enduring spirit for academy and science, and the efforts and contributions. He has pushed Endourology forward worldwide. He is the role model for all urologists across the globe. His achievements have been recognized by multiple international academic associations. He is the winner of Distinguished Contribution Award of AUA and Lifetime Achievement Award winner of SIU, etc. Arthur is not only a friend of mine but also the friend of Chinese urologists. I love him. All Chinese urologists respect and love him as well.

Dan Stoianovici  
PhD: Professor, Urology, Mechanical Engineering, Neurosurgery, Oncology; Director, Robotics Laboratory, James Buchanan Brady Urological Institute, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

I have known Dr. Smith for many years through the interaction with the Engineering and Urology Society. He is always very supportive of new technology developments in Urology and encourages young scholars to embrace this cross-disciplinary research. Thank you, Dr. Smith. – Dan

IN LIVING TRIBUTE: ARTHUR D. SMITH, MD
I first met Dr. Arthur Smith when I was a resident over 20 years ago; but over the last decade Nandini and I have got to spend a lot of time with Arthur and Kay at multiple meetings. Every time we meet, my respect for him grows exponentially. His personality and his connection with people across the globe are what sets him apart.

He was able to look beyond his times and continues to do so. His founding of the Endourological Society is a landmark achievement. However, 27 years ago he also conceived and started conducting a smaller annual meeting, the World Congress of Videourology and Advances in Clinical Urology. These meetings were conducted across the globe typically in association with regional or national meetings. It was focused on technique and practical management skills with multiple videos. He had visualized the importance of videos long before the iphones, MPEGs, Youtube and Google. That has been the foundation of Videourology, the first peer-reviewed urologic video journal.

Living life to the fullest and his unique relationship to Kay and his family are obvious in everything he does. Kay Smith’s contribution to their team is understated but invaluable and integral to their remarkable journey in life. Best wishes for many years of great health and continued happiness.

Apart from being a longtime and loyal friend, Arthur to me is Endourology personified.

Dr. Arthur Smith had his own family connections to New Orleans. His in-laws lived in New Orleans, and he and Kay would often visit the Crescent City. It was tough to pin him down, but
we did finally have him at Tulane as visiting professor in 1999.

The day we spent with Arthur was highly educational. I still recall that we presented our series on percutaneous calyceal diverticulum management. Arthur was intrigued by the fact that we were ablating the diverticulum rather than dilating the neck.

“How do you know it’s not recurring or has better results than dilating the neck?” It was he who then suggested that postoperative CT scans should help solve the problem.

Bingo! We proceeded to get post-op CT scans, which confirmed the durability of the ablation procedure. This manuscript was quickly written up and was published in the *Journal of Urology* in the year 2000. Dr. Smith’s idea is still the gold standard. Bravo, Arthur!

Arthur, you continue to amaze me, 36 years and counting.

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Mr. David Tolley
Consultant Urologist Edinburgh, Scotland; Past President, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; Past President, the Endourological Society

**Innovator, facilitator, inspiring Pioneer**

Arthur,
Thank you for the unique contribution you have made to the development of endourology over four decades.

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Dr. Olivier Traxer
Professor of Urology, University Pierre et Marie Curie Paris; head of the Minimally Invasive Surgery Department, Hôpital Tenon, Paris, France

Arthur Smith was in Amsterdam in 2005 for an endourological workshop organized by Jean de la Rosette. I was invited as a faculty with Arthur and John Denstedt. It was the first time that I met Arthur personally. I was so impressed by the Master!!!

A bit later, I got the Arthur Smith’s Award in Chicago 2010; a privilege for me. Since that time, the award is on my desk in my office and every day I look at the “Arthur” and think about his huge work and contribution. He is the Model that all of us try to follow. He is the light in the dark world of Endourology.

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Burak Turna
MD: Professor of Urology, Ege University School of Medicine, Izmir, Turkey

Arthur is truly inspirational for his passion for his family and friends, his academic achievements as well as his enjoyment of travel, good company, and the pleasures of life. He is a wonderful role model to the Urology World and Endourological Society in general, of how to make the most of what is given to you, appreciate and develop what you have, then share and enjoy with others—whether it be knowledge, experience, education or humor.

It is a privilege to be his friend.
There is a time when one begins to look back more often than ahead.
I cannot help to measure everything I received from circumstances and influences I came across in my life.
I vividly remember the first annual meeting of the Endourological Society that you organized in New York City more than thirty years ago (1985).
I presented an original video on endopyelotomy that you discussed vividly.
It was the beginning of a perpetual discussion, but also, and most importantly, of a lasting appreciation and a faithful friendship.
Thank you for your interest at that time to an anonymous Belgian urologist.
Please keep on generating enthusiasm and creativity.
These are of few of my wishes to Kay and yourself for your future career. All the best! >>

A pioneer is one who is willing to explore and tread where others fear, to push the boundaries and to overcome the physical and mental obstacles that very few would be willing to tolerate. This describes Dr. Arthur Smith, the person who we are honoring with the Festschrift. Although his reputation proceeded, I first met Arthur and Kay in 1984, at which time I was a Fellow under Ralph Clayman. I was struck not only by his surgical skills (albeit, sometimes slightly unconventional) but his ability to “think outside the box” and willing to push the envelope of minimally invasive surgery.
In the 1990’s, he was very enthusiastic to continue learning new skills and was a regular faculty member at our Laparoscopy Training Courses at University of Iowa. It was a great pleasure to also invite his lovely wife Kay (M.D. and J.D., Esq.) to lecture on the legal aspects of the new surgical pursuit of Laparoscopy. Beyond Arthur’s brilliance and great contributions to our specialty of Endourology, he has always demonstrated warmth, kindness and humility in all his dealings. As he has done for so many others, he has contributed greatly to my academic career. Arthur, you continue to be my true friend, mentor and scholar. A true leader who I continue to cherish each day. >>

Although I never trained under Arthur, his presence in my career has been expansive and important. Many of those who did train me had been his colleagues, of course. Simply by being the “Father of Endourology” his influence on me would be great. Nonetheless, Arthur’s greatest impact on me has been his deep kindness and genuine caring about others. That such a giant in our field can be honestly interested in the welfare of all of the people surrounding him is truly remarkable and a great legacy. >>
I first met Arthur in 1992 during the World Congress on Endourology and ESWL in Singapore. I was immediately struck by how inclusive Arthur and the whole Endourology community was and still is towards the Asian Urology community. Over the past 26 years, I am very impressed with Arthur’s production and management of high quality educational programmes. WCE has been the gold standard for scientific content for many of us in Asia. Most of all, I am thankful for the generous friendship Kay and Arthur and the whole WCE family has extended to Julianah and myself.

I have been deeply influenced by Arthur and the whole WCE family to run high quality educational programmes here in Asia these past 22 years. I hope in a small way to repay all the benefits I have received to others here in Asia. This photo was taken recently with Arthur and Mahesh when the three of us ran an endourology workshop under Asian School of Urology in Thailand.

Carry On, Arthur!!!

What an amazing journey yours has been. Those of us who have had the honor and privilege of working with you have witnessed decades of your tireless efforts to advance the field of Endourology which has helped countless patients whose names and faces you will never know. Your impeccable work ethic, scientific curiosity, quest for excellence is second to none. Your desire to teach and challenge, your gentle and yet firm demands to be productive in and outside of the operating room has been a sweet chapter in my personal journey as well. Fearless, selfless, kind, peacemaker, thoughtful are few of the many words that come to mind when I remember my most memorable and pivotal year with you.

Many scholars in the world have admired your surgical and literary skills, and ability to bring together many different personalities for a common purpose; and yet few, including myself, have watched you single-handedly flipping patients prone on the operating table, picking up dirty needles, and wiping and mopping bloody floors in the operating room. Oh! If you had only learned anesthesia, most operating days would have gone faster.

I am sure that being a pioneer has had its rewards and many lonely moments along the way. But we all know that behind every great man is a great woman. I respectfully salute you and your wife on a job well done. Many have dreamt big dreams, but few have imagined those dreams into tangible reality. May God fill the rest of your days with more peace, joy, and most of all, good health.
We make our products with our hands so you can trust them in yours.
“Come to work every day excited by a problem, get busy working on a solution, and make a difference in the life of a patient.”

Bill Cook
Founder, Cook Medical