



Bryan Dean Cowan, MD
May 8, 2011

Dr. Bryan D. Cowan, 62, died peacefully at home from cancer on May 8, 2011. He was born on January 19, 1949 in Brush, Colorado. He attended the University of Colorado in Boulder where he excelled in academics, track and music. His Doctorate degree was obtained from the University of Colorado, College of Medicine *cum laude*. His Ob/Gyn residency was served at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital, and he then completed his fellowship training in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) at the National Institutes of Health in 1981. Dr. Cowan subsequently served as head of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda from 1981-1983.

In 1983 he joined the faculty at the University of Mississippi Medical Center; founding the first in-vitro fertilization program in the state that same year. In 1986 he became the REI Division Director and was promoted to Professor in 1991. His career culminated as Chair of the University of Mississippi Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, a position he held between 2002 and 2009. In addition to membership in this society, he was a member of the Society for Gynecological Investigation, the Endocrine Society, the Society for the Study of Reproduction, and the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics. He held leadership positions and served on numerous committees of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He also served on the editorial board or as an editor of multiple journals including, *Fertility and Sterility*, *Endocrinology*, the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Ob-Gyn Interaction* and *eMedicine*. He was an examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

He had a highly productive academic career contributing to 104 peer reviewed publications, 76 as first or senior author, 30 textbook chapters and 143 published abstracts. He co-edited the textbook, *Clinical Reproductive Medicine*. He delivered nearly 200 formal lectures and was the recipient of multiple prizes for clinical, teaching and research excellence. Dr. Cowan promoted resident education, trained a long list of protégés and was innovative in gynecologic surgical techniques. He was honored at his departure from administration in 2009 by the establishment of a fellowship for student research in Women's Health.

Dr. Cowan took particular delight in assisting infertile couples to have children. He was also well known for his unparalleled kindness, patience, courage and integrity. He was fun to be around and embraced life to the fullest, taking on every opportunity to participate in activities with close friends including sailing, pickup basketball games and thoughtful conversations. He had a particular passion for wood-working. He will be sorely missed by his friends and professional colleagues and is mourned by his

wife, Harriette Hampton, MD; his four children, Stacey Alan Cowan (Marcie), Courtenay Laine Bratten (Steve), Morgan Leigh Cowan, and Meryl Lindsay Cowan; three grandchildren, Brandon Cowan, Trace and Berlin Bratten; and two brothers, Ret. Vice Admiral Michael Cowan (Ashburn, Virginia) and Brent Cowan (Coatesville, Pennsylvania).

Respectfully submitted by Drs. David Seifer and Charles Lockwood