



## IN MEMORIAM

CUAJ honours its members and friends who have passed away. We invite colleagues of the deceased to submit brief remembrances. Please limit your notice to 200 words. Send your notice to [journal@cua.org](mailto:journal@cua.org) or fax it to 514-395-1664.

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### Dr. Ara Gabriel Keresteci

Dr. Keresteci died on November 14, 2011, at the age of 82. He leaves behind his son Garo (Carolynne), son Peter (Kim), grandchildren Daniel, Kerri, Kelly, Matthew, Benjamin and Ella. Ara also leaves his wife Margaret and step-children Paul and Ashleigh, who he shared many happy years with. A proud Armenian, Dr. Keresteci was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey, the son of Dr. Garo (urologist) and Nuvart Keresteciyan. Ara graduated from Istanbul University Medical School in 1954. After serving in the Turkish Army for two years he was accepted to St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Brooklyn, NY to do post-graduate training. Ara made his way to Canada to continue his surgical training in urology at University of Toronto and was offered a staff position at Wellesley Hospital. Canada had now become a permanent home to Ara; he married Patricia Rutherford in 1959 and together they raised their two boys. He felt welcome in this great country. Ara was introduced to Georgian Bay by his good friend and mentor Dr. Bill Kerr and the family enjoyed many summers at the cottage. Winters included skiing on weekends at Beaver Valley and travelling to Alpine Surgical Society meetings with Dr. Hugh and Judy Thomson. Ara was also an avid scuba diver, underwater photographer and rug collector. Ara - aka "Dr. K." - was the senior staff urologist at "The Wellesley" for over 30 years, caring for thousands of patients over that time. He also trained a generation of urologists, including Dr. Michael Jewett, a lifelong friend and colleague. Active in the local Armenian community, Ara helped acquire medical equipment needed in Armenia after the devastating earthquake there in 1988. He was also very committed to the training of foreign urologists. With the closure of the Wellesley Hospital in 2002, Ara moved over to St. Michael's Hospital and was on staff there when he retired in 2004. He was much loved by his trainees of whom there just under 60. They attended his retirement en masse some years ago and it was gratifying to hear the expressions of sincere appreciation and respect. He was clearly a much loved clinical teacher and we would all be envious of respect in which he was held.

*Modified from The Toronto Star (2011).*