



Irwin Klein, M.D. (1946-2024)

Irwin Klein, aged 77, passed away on July 5, 2024. Born on December 25, 1946, to Ruth and Sam Klein in Brooklyn, New York. Irwin was the oldest of 3 children. In 1973, Irwin married the love of his life, Debbie Albanese, with whom he shared 51 beautiful years of cherished memories and devotion. Together, they raised three children: Kathy (Blayne) Gelbman, Mark (Danielle) Klein, and Steve Klein (Kyle Holzermer), who were the pride and joy of his life, until his granddaughter Kiara Gelbman was born and proudly took that title. Debbie and Irwin lived in Manhasset for 25 years where community was an important aspect of Irwin's life. He enjoyed serving as a trustee of the Village of Plandome Manor. They then moved to the peaceful beach community of Asharoken.

Irwin was a man of many passions. He played lacrosse throughout his life, from high school, to college (University of Pennsylvania) and club teams afterward. He continued his love of lacrosse by coaching and supporting his children and many others, imparting his love of the game to countless children through the Manhasset PAL Lacrosse program, earning him the honor of induction to the Manhasset Lacrosse Hall of Fame. With fellow Penn teammates, he maintained his connection to lacrosse in recent years by being the eternal cheerleader for his alma mater's lacrosse team. He enjoyed horse racing; treating horse stats and jockey bios like a research project. Unbeknownst to many, Irwin was also an accomplished Frisbee player.

Dr. Klein graduated from The University of Pennsylvania and NYU School of Medicine. He pursued his calling in medicine with a residency in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Endocrinology. Following a seven-year tenure as Associate Professor of Medicine and

Physiology at the University of Pittsburgh, he was recruited to Manhasset to become the Chairman of the Department of Endocrinology at North Shore University Hospital and Professor of Medicine at NYU. Concurrent to his prestigious clinical career, he pursued cutting-edge research focusing on thyroid hormone and its effects on the heart. Throughout his research tenure he authored over 200 original articles, editorials, and book chapters. These studies have established the molecular, cellular and physiologic mechanisms of cardiovascular changes in thyroid disease, leading to novel treatment strategies. Dr. Klein was respected by many as the preeminent international authority in his field, earning him a seat on many advisory boards and review committees. The final ten years of his medical career were spent in private practice. His passion for the field of endocrinology was palpable, surpassed only by his devotion to his patients, which earned him the respect and gratitude of everyone who knew him.

Irwin Klein will be deeply missed, however the impact he has made on medicine, colleagues, patients, friends and family lives on.