Martin Blechman

PARAMUS - Martin G. Blechman, M.D., 92, died on June 16.

Martin was born in New York City before moving to Hackensack and Maywood, where he spent his childhood years. He later settled in Paramus where he raised his family. Martin attended grade school in Maywood and graduated from Hackensack High School in 1943. He was drafted into the Army right out of high school and was sent to Central Europe, where he served as a combat medic with the 102nd Infantry Division, 407th Infantry Regiment. During the Battle of the Bulge, Martin earned the Combat Medic Badge and a Bronze Star, amongst other medals. Following VE Day, Martin attended and graduated from Biarritz American University in Biarritz, France. Upon discharge, Martin earned a Bachelor of Science from George Washington University, Master of Science in parasitology from Columbia University and medical degree at Thomas Jefferson University. Martin met his wife Charlotte during their residency at Montefiore Medical Center. In his younger years, Martin was an avid basketball player, downhill skier and swimmer. Later, Martin enjoyed watching his grandchildren play sports. Martin devoted his life to caring for patients with diabetes, with the goal of helping them improve their guality of life. He was on the staff of Hackensack University Medical Center for 41 years, having served as the chief of the diabetes section. Martin and Charlotte shared a private practice in Hackensack for 41 years, retiring in 2002. Following retirement, Martin stayed active volunteering for several diabetes organizations and spent his winters in Boca Raton, Fla. Martin was the author of numerous medical articles and served as president of the New Jersey Affiliate of American Diabetes Association, and board member of the National Certification Board for Diabetes Education and Camp NEJEDA. He also was a member of American Diabetes Association, American Medical Association, American College of Physicians, American Society of Tropical Medicine, American Association of Clinical Endocrinology, amongst other professional organizations. Martin was a member of the Paramus Jewish Community Center.

He was the husband of Dr. Charlotte Sokol-Blechman for 53 years; father of Linda Busch of West Hartford, Barbara Blechman of New York City and Rachel Devine and her husband John of Mahwah; grandfather of Travis and Lucas Busch, Kayla, Julia and Jordan Devine; brother of Helen Bolnick and her partner Sol Berman.

A funeral service will be held at the Louis Suburban Chapel in Fair Lawn at noon on Monday, June 20, followed by a burial at the Beth El Cemetery in Paramus. Memorial donations may be made to the Diabetes Foundation Inc. (diabetesfoundationinc.org or mail to 13 Sunflower Ave., #1010, Paramus, NJ 07652) or Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative (bvmi.org or mail to 241 Moore St., #1, Hackensack, NJ 07601).

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