

In memory of Irving D. Buchin

Irving Buchin, a well-known leader in clinical orthodontics, died in New York City on March 30, 1989 after several months of illness. He was 69 years old. Dr. Buchin practiced orthodontics in Manhattan and resided in Forest Hills, New York.



Irv Buchin was born and educated in New York City. He attended New York University for undergraduate and dental school, receiving his DDS degree in 1943. He immediately entered the United States Army as Post Dental Surgeon at Fort Amador, Canal Zone. Soon he became Secretary-Treasurer and then President of the Canal Zone Dental Society. On his return to New York, Irv associated in practice with Arthur V. Greenstein, Clinical Professor of Orthodontics at Tufts University, thus marking the beginning of his lifetime devotion to clinical orthodontics.

If we believe, as it is written, that every man's work is a portrait of himself, then Irving Buchin's portrait is indeed a masterpiece. In his beloved specialty, Irv was absolutely the best. He was an orthodontist's orthodontist. He was a master of detail: his clinical work, his records, his presentations and publications all bore the marks of his extraordinary skill.

Irv Buchin enjoyed orthodontics immensely. He would often pass up a round of golf to do some desk work on an interesting diagnostic problem. He would tell his golfing friends, "Look, I've got a 26 handicap on the golf course, but I'm a scratch player in my office."

Irv always made time for teaching and was a gifted instructor. His dedication to excellence, his unbounded enthusiasm and his willingness to share are some of the qualities his hundreds

of students will never forget. During the 1960s, Irv held a professorial appointment at Boston University, regularly flying up to spend days teaching the orthodontic residents. Since 1969, he had been professor of orthodontics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

In addition to his professorial duties, Irving Buchin dedicated much time to teaching practicing orthodontists new techniques and advances. He presented courses and lectures at more than a dozen universities here and abroad. Irv took special pride in the invitation he received regularly to teach advanced orthodontic techniques with Dr. Charles Tweed in Tucson.

Irving Buchin contributed distinguished service to his profession and community. He received much recognition for his commitment. He was elected president of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists, Eastern Component, and had been the Society's national treasurer and a national director. Irv served as president of the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists in 1977-78. He was past-president of the Eastern Section of the Charles H. Tweed Foundation and former constituent society editor for the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. He served on the Orthodontic Advisory Board, City of New York Department of Health. Irv was a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and a Fellow of the American College of Dentists.

Irv Buchin was a loved and loving husband and father. Those who knew him knew how much he relied on his wife Jean, a psychologist and professor of education at City University of New York. Their sons John and Peter are tributes to both parents' success as role models.

Dr. Irving Buchin made a big difference in the lives of those he touched, those who knew him and loved him. We all shall miss him dearly.

Sheldon Peck
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