

Joseph H. Crampton, M.D.

1917-1966

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A truly great clinician and leader has been lost to American medicine and to the American Diabetes Association.

Dr. Joseph H. Crampton was born in Spokane, Washington, on April 26, 1917. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Idaho in 1938 and his Doctor of Medicine degree from Vanderbilt Medical School in 1941. Following a medical internship at Vanderbilt University Hospital under Hugh J. Morgan, he served his medical residency under Tinsley H. Harrison, first at North Carolina Baptist Hospital and later at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical College at Parkland Hospital in Dallas.

In 1945 he joined the Mason Clinic in Seattle, Washington, as a member of the two-man section of Endocrinology and Metabolism with Dr. Lester J. Palmer. Following Dr. Palmer's retirement in 1955, Dr. Crampton became head of the section. His vision, enthusiasm and organizational skill were responsible not only for a rapid increase in interest, an increase in research activities and an increase in teaching in his section but also an expansion of activities in Mason Clinic where his counsel was valued highly. He was instrumental in starting the Virginia Mason Foundation for Medical Research. He remained an active member of Mason Clinic until his death except during the years 1953 to 1955 when he was on active duty with the United States Army Medical Corps as Chief of the Cardiovascular Service and Assistant Chief of the Medical Service at the Army-Navy General Hospital in Hot Springs.

Dr. Crampton's primary interest in diabetes mellitus and the care of diabetic patients as well as his esteem nationally was attested by his service for five years as Chairman of the Committee on Detection and Education of the American Diabetes Association; his service for five years as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Diabetes Association; and his service as Secretary of this Association for the past two years. During his final illness, while disabled, he was re-elected Secretary.

Further evidence of his professional stature can be gathered from his membership in the following organi-



zations. In addition to the King County Medical Society, Washington State Medical Association and the American Medical Association, Dr. Crampton was also a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, an officer of the American Diabetes Association, a member of The Endocrine Society, the American Federation for Clinical Research, the North Pacific Society of Internal Medicine, the Northwest Society for Clinical Research, the Seattle Academy of Internal Medicine and the Washington Diabetes Association. He was President of the Board of Trustees of the Diabetic Trust Fund and of the Diabetes Teaching and Research Foundation.

Joe Crampton personified the ideal of American medicine. He was truly a gentleman as well as a forthright, intelligent and conscientious physician who loved people and helped all who were in need. Joe Crampton gave freely of time and of himself in order that patients would be better treated and physicians would be better informed.

All who knew Joe Crampton loved him and all who loved him extend their heartfelt sympathy to his lovely wife, Kathleen, and his daughter, Victoria.