Whitney Gordon Sampson, MD (1932-2000)

Whitney Gordon Sampson, MD, died on July 18, 2000, after a brief illness with cancer. His distinguished career was marked by his excellence as a teacher in the areas of optics and contact lenses and his leadership in the most prominent ophthalmic organizations.

He was trained in ophthalmology at Baylor College Affiliated Hospitals and was active on the staffs of several hospitals in the Houston area. He was also president of the Texas Ophthalmological Society, Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmology, American Association of Ophthalmology, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Dr Sampson is survived by his wife of 44 years, Marlys Hayward Sampson, and their 3 children, Linda Sampson Cox, Leslie Sampson Keller, and Whitney Gordon Sampson, Jr, as well as 6 grandchildren.

In addition to his achievements in ophthalmology, Dr Sampson will be remembered for his sense of humor, his imposing physical stature, and his string bow tie. At his funeral, the song “I Did It My Way” was played. Those who knew him know the song must have been written with Whitney in mind.

Elliot Finkelstein, MD
Brookline, Mass