

Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison On the Death of Professor Emeritus Leonard Stein

Dr. Leonard Irving Stein, MD, was a dedicated Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health who led a distinguished career in Community Psychiatry, through which he gained national recognition. He joined the faculty in July 1972 and remained active until his retirement in 1994, after which he served as Emeritus Professor. He passed away on July 7, 2018, at the age of 88.

Dr. Stein was a scholar and researcher who was widely respected for his studies concerning alternatives to hospitalization for persons with severe mental illness. His pioneering work developing comprehensive community care programs for the seriously mentally ill, now known as Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), gained international recognition and revolutionized the concept of public mental health care.

Dr. Stein was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1929 and spent his early years in Chicago before moving to Madison, where he graduated from West High School in 1947. He received his undergraduate degree with honors at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1951 and his Masters degree in Botany in 1953. He served our country during the Korean War and returned to Madison as a Captain, entering medical school on the GI Bill and obtaining his medical degree in 1960. He then completed an Internship at Los Angeles County Hospital before completing his Psychiatry Residency at University of Wisconsin in 1964.

Dr. Stein with his wife Karen raised three children (Laura, Alan, Julia) as well as Karen's younger brother, Gregory. Throughout his life, Dr. Stein enjoyed sailing, skiing, playing poker, tennis, and vacationing with his family in Sister Bay. He also possessed a talent for billiards and became a national collegiate champion.

In 1975, Dr. Stein became the Medical Director of the Mental Health Center of Dane County, where he led a team that pioneered a new model for providing comprehensive community-based mental health services to individuals with long term serious mental illness. The training in community living program, the model for today's assertive community treatment, received the American Psychiatric Association's Gold Achievement Award in 1974, and the Arnold L. van Ameringen Award in Psychiatric Rehabilitation in 1990 for outstanding contributions to the field of psychiatric rehabilitation in the areas of research, clinical service, education and advocacy. In 1987, Dr. Stein was named the Outstanding Health Advocate for the state of Wisconsin and was awarded the Twelfth Annual Public Interest Award by the Center for Public Representation, a public service legal organization that advocates for chronically disabled persons. He was awarded the inaugural John Beard Memorial Award by the International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services in 1989, as well as the national Keystone Founder Award, the Arthur P. Noyes Award, and the Carl Taube Award for the American Public Health Association for contributions to public health.

Dr. Stein was a rare combination of innovative research scientist, compassionate physician, dedicated mental health clinician, skilled instructor and mentor, as well as a driven and persuasive leader. He was known for being thoughtful and considerate of others' feelings, and for his delightful sense of humor. He will be truly missed.