



Ronald L. Haun, MD
1944–2000

Ronald L. Haun, M.D., a valued member of the Division of Medical Genetics at the University of Miami School of Medicine, died of a heart attack while in his office on March 1, 2000.

Ron was a Founding Fellow of the American College of Medical Genetics. After receiving his undergraduate degree in mathematics, he obtained his medical degree from St. Louis University. After training in Pediatrics he practiced primary care Pediatrics in Evansville, Indiana, for 15 years. While in practice, he commuted to the University of Indiana for training in Medical Genetics and was certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics.

After accepting a faculty position at the University of Miami in 1991, Ron became broadly active in clinical genetics, but his focus was the interdisciplinary Cleft Lip-Cleft Palate Clinic, which he so successfully ran with Dr. Seth Thaller, Chief of Plastic Surgery at the University of Miami. At the time of his death, he was following over

300 children in this clinic. Widely recognized as a computer whiz, faculty commonly passed up the programmers to visit with Ron when they had a computer problem or project. His office was awash with the latest computer gadgets. He was a leader in this Department in using voice-activated dictation for his medical records.

Ron's training and long-time practice as a general pediatrician permitted him to seamlessly integrate the latest genetic information into the practice of a traditional medical specialty. This talent is one we hope to see emulated widely as we try to enhance the genetic information of all practicing physicians so that they can bring new genetic information to the patients. His positive attitude, and smiling face, is sorely missed in our institution.

A fund has been established in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Miami to support the Ronald L. Haun Cleft Lip and Palate Lectureship, which will honor his memory.