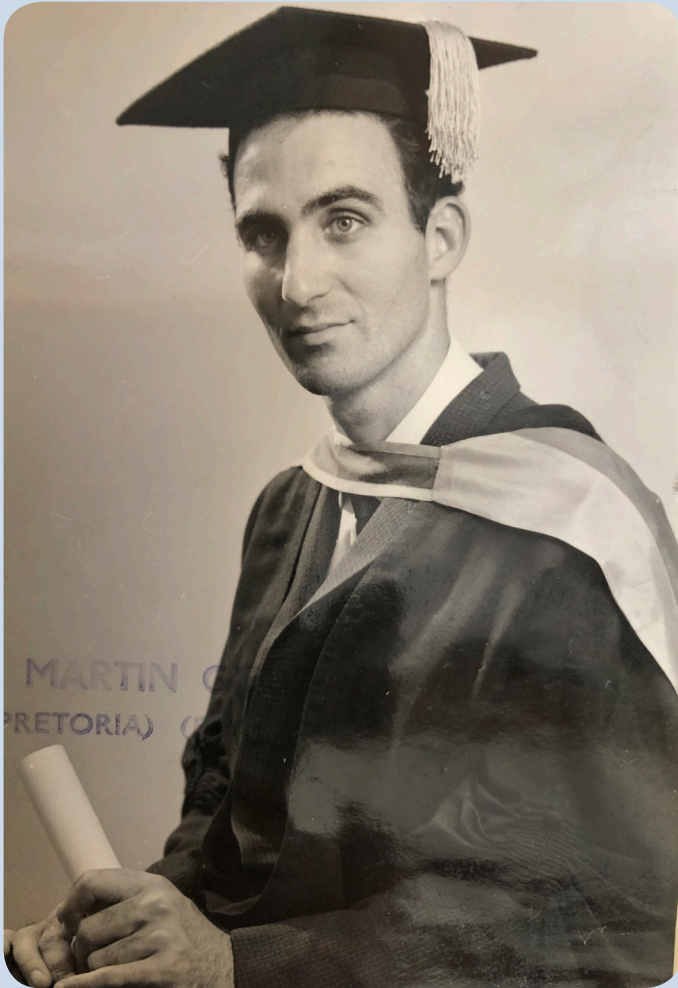


# *In Memoriam*

## IN MEMORY OF DAVID MENDEL BURSTEIN



David Mendel Burstein was born on 6 February 1943 in Johannesburg. He attended Houghton Primary School and King Edward (K.E.S) High School for Boys in Johannesburg. Initially, Dave began studying for a degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand which he gave up in his second year to study Veterinary Science at Onderstepoort, Pretoria University. Dave graduated as a veterinarian in 1967.

Dave experienced a successful career in private practice, which he initially began by doing locums, starting off in an equine and sheep practice in Colesberg, Karoo, for five months, followed by various short-term locums all around South Africa. He went to the United Kingdom with his new bride, Susie, where he continued

with locums between excursions to explore Europe. After a year of travelling, Dave and Susie returned to South Africa to work in a practice in Brits for four months, after which he joined a practice in Benoni for three years. In Boksburg, he turned his many skills to building, where he designed and self-built the first of his veterinary hospitals.

Subsequently, Dave owned three hospitals and two clinics on the East Rand, all with modern, state-of-the-art equipment. Dave specifically enjoyed orthopaedic surgery and judiciously kept abreast with current developments in veterinary science through (imported) veterinary journals and Continuing Education courses. In addition, he obtained post-graduate qualifications in physiology and anatomy.



In 1999, suffering increasingly poor health, Dave moved away from veterinary practice. He tried his hand at Plastic Manufacturing but wasn't an entrepreneur and soon gave it up to assist with the Foot & Mouth epidemic in the United Kingdom. From there, he spent nine years in Hong Kong working in a small animal practice and then went to Perth, Australia, to assist his son, Adrian, in building his home, his veterinary hospital and starting up his practice. Dave retired in 2018 and returned to South Africa, where his health continued to deteriorate.

Dave married Susan (née Koppel) in 1968, whom he had met some five years earlier. In 1970 they were blessed with a daughter, Julia, and two years later with a son Adrian. Dave had five grandchildren: Aaron (studying economics and business studies in Israel), Rachel (4th-year Vet student), Natasha (3rd Year Mech. Engineering student) and twin boys Gary & Daniel in matric in Perth, Australia.

Over and above being a successful veterinarian, Dave participated in many activities outside his profession. He and Susie travelled widely, often to remote and unusual places. He read extensively from his personal library of assorted textbooks with a special interest in history, geology, science and astronomy.

The Stock Market was an absorbing interest and field of study. Besides being an avid DIY enthusiast, he also was interested in art and music. He played the violin and was an adept painter. Dave was an accomplished chess and bridge player. Partnered with Susie, they won many trophies at the Bridge Club in Benoni. Over the years, he participated in many sports activities – Judo (black belt), table tennis, squash and golf. He went wind-surfing, sky-diving, snorkelling and even bungee-jumped off the Storms River bridge in his early 70's. Dave enjoyed outdoor activities such as hiking with his children, bird-watching and gardening.

Dave was a modest, humble, highly intelligent and intellectual man with a wonderful, albeit zany, sense of humour! He will be remembered for his extraordinary generosity, being a loving family man, kindness, caring, compassion, and earnest desire to share some of his vast knowledge with all and sundry. He passed away from MSA (Multiple Systems Atrophy) on 25 November 2022.

He will be sorely missed.

*Dr Vincent Turner*

IN MEMORIAM