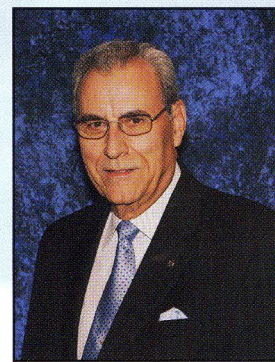


FOMA Legislative Chairman, Marcelino Oliva, Jr., DO Passes Away



Marcelino Oliva, Jr., DO, 75, of Dade City, passed away on July 8, 2011 after a battle with multiple myeloma cancer. Dr. Oliva was born on November 8th, 1935 in Candelaria, Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He moved to the United States at age 10. He came from a family of several physicians and it was his brother who introduced him to a physician in Dade City, W.E. Stanfield, DO. Dr. Stanfield helped him get an interview at what is now the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine where he received his DO degree in 1964.

Dr. Oliva began his practice as an osteopathic family physician in Dade City, in 1965, at a time when there were few rural doctors. He owned a nine-bed hospital, performed emergency procedures, delivered babies, ran his own x-ray and lab facility, and conducted house-calls.

Dr. Oliva served as President of the FOMA from 1974-75. He served on the Board of Trustees, was currently serving as Chairman of the Florida Delegation to the AOA House of Delegates, was the founder and Chair of the FOMA Political Action Committee, and Chair of the FOMA Legislative Committee. In 1978, he received the FOMA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, in 1990 received the FOMA Physician of the Year Award and in 1999, received the FOMA Lifetime Achievement Award.

On a state level, Dr. Oliva served on many boards, commissions and councils. From 1970-72, he was appointed by the Governor and served on the Florida State Medicaid Advisory Council. He also served at the appointment of the Governor, on the Board of State Osteopathic Medical Examiners from 1978-80. In 1979, Dr. Oliva was appointed by Florida's Insurance Commissioner to serve on the Florida Board of Governors of the Patient's Compensation Fund; and from 1983-85, by appointment of the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, he served on the Advisory Panel on Physician Reimbursement Issues. Dr. Oliva also served on the Board of Trustees of Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine since 1979.

Dr. Oliva's involvement on the national level started in the 1970's when he served on the AOA Board of Trustees from 1977-1991. He was elected and served

as President of the AOA from 1988 to 1989. A Cuban native, he was the first minority to serve in the AOA's top elected post. Dr. Oliva also served stints as Chair of the AOA's Bureau on Federal Health Programs and Chair of the AOA's Bureau of Legislative Affairs. Dr. Oliva received the AOA Presidential Citation Award in 2006 from AOA President Philip Shettle, DO. Dr. Oliva was also a member of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) of which he served as Chair of their Legislative Committee.

Dr. Oliva was the past chief-of-staff of the East Pasco Medical Center in Dade City, and also served as a member of the Executive Committee of Humana Pasco Hospital. He also served as a medical consultant for the athletic department and student health center of St. Leo University, and also was a founding trustee of Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine in North Miami Beach, Fla. He was director of two bank boards at the time of his death and was serving as a board member of First National Bank of Pasco.

Dr. Oliva was a member of the American Osteopathic Association for over 47 years, a member of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA) and FOMA District Society 13 since 1965.

Dr. Oliva was instrumental in making osteopathic medicine in Florida and throughout the United States recognized as a premier profession. He opened the doors to allow osteopathic physicians to practice in Florida hospitals alongside allopathic physicians by bringing a lawsuit all the way up to the District Court of Appeals. His contributions to the osteopathic profession are tremendous and will be remembered by many colleagues, physicians, and students to come.

The Oliva family and the FOMA have established the FOMA-Marcelino Oliva, Jr., DO Osteopathic Student Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to this student scholarship fund, please make your check payable to the FOMA-Oliva Scholarship Fund and mail to: FOMA, Oliva Scholarship Fund, 2007 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Dr. Oliva helped pave the way for osteopathic physicians in Florida, let's join together and help pave the way for osteopathic students in Dr. Oliva's honor!