

# DR SIEGAL RETIRES!

by G. Rockower, MD



After 45 years of practice at Clarkstown Pediatrics, Dr. Elliot Siegal retired at the end of June. He is the last of the original five doctors at Clarkstown Pediatrics to retire. Dr. Siegal is one of a kind in both ability and dedication. It is rare to find someone who practiced both general pediatrics and a pediatric endocrinology subspecialty. He practiced both with the highest quality and was a mentor to all of the doctors in our group.

He completed his residency and subspecialty training at New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center, then began his career as Chief of Pediatrics at the U.S. Public Health Service in Norfolk, Virginia.

In 1973, he joined Drs. Medici, Rosh, and Lieberman at Clarkstown Pediatrics. At that time, the practice was thriving in cramped quarters at our old 259 North Middletown Road building. With the addition of Dr. Yurcisin, the "original 5"

built the largest all pediatric practice in Rockland County. In the 1990's Dr. Siegal and Dr. Lieberman started seeing patients at 200 East Eckerson Road. With their reputation and quality this second office thrived as well. Dr. Siegal earned the respect and love of the community and his care will be missed by so many. A first ballot Clarkstown Pediatrics hall of famer!

## **Dr. Rockower's personal note:**

*Over the past 10 years I have had the honor to work side-by-side with Dr. Siegal. He has been my mentor and collaborator. He was the one I could go to for a bedside consult, a sports update, or just to share a life event. His knowledge, professionalism, and sense of humor is something I try to emulate. He is an amazing pediatrician, colleague, and friend. Life at our Eckerson road office and the whole group at Clarkstown Pediatrics will certainly not be the same without him. I hope that he enjoys this next stage of life as he travels the world and spends some more quality time with his wife, daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. We hope he comes by to visit often!*

## **Dr. Puder's personal note:**

*I agree with Dr. Rockower's comments. I also learned from Dr. Siegal's steadiness and reliability. He rarely missed a day of work in 45 years! He was completely unflappable, composed, and calm under pressure even while treating the sickest patients. His humor at these times allowed the staff to relax and refocus and do whatever needed to be done. A true Yankee fan, he rooted for the team in good times and bad. (He cheered his team to seven World Series Championships while he was at Clarkstown Pediatrics!) He gave the same steady loyalty to the Clarkstown Pediatrics team as well.*

*The first four Yankees to have their numbers retired were Lou Gehrig ('39), Babe Ruth ('48), Joe DiMaggio ('52), and Mickey Mantle ('69). The fifth was Yogi Berra ('72). So Dr. Siegal is our Yogi Berra. And Yogi said, "if you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else." Elliot, glad you always knew the right direction to go!"*

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