Preface: Oncogenic Biomarkers and Signal Transduction

The preface to an issue of a journal, ordinarily, summarizes and highlights the salient features that the authors have incorporated into the theme of the issue. This special issue, *Oncogenic Biomarkers and Signal Transduction*, is a memorial that partially deviates from that because it is a tribute to our friend and colleague, Lee A. Goodglick, MBA, Ph.D., who unfortunately passed away in July, 2014. Shortly after his passing, Benjamin Bonavida, Ph.D., Editor in Chief of CRO, approached me about organizing an issue dedicated to the memory of Lee. With a heavy heart, I naturally agreed. I found the task to be emotionally difficult on many levels, but nonetheless, with the assistance of Ben, we were able to organize an issue that contains tremendous scientific content and discovery in cancer research—something that, I think, Lee would have appreciated very much. The contributors to this volume are friends and colleagues of Lee and span his career from graduate school until his untimely passing. It is a testament to his character and relationships that he nurtured, personally and professionally, that Lee's friends and colleagues eagerly accepted to write chapters in his honor on topics that Lee was actively involved in studying or had scientific curiosity and interest. In addition, Lee's parents, Sandy and William Goodglick, and several colleagues have chosen to share memories of Lee separately (Drs. Bonavida, Braun, Fishbein, and Diamandis) or in their chapters.

This special issue includes a wide range of topics examining several malignant diseases and therapeutic approaches. Very prominent in Lee's academic career was his research and collaborations in the Early Detection Research Network (EDRN), a collaboration led by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), focused on the discovery of cancer biomarkers. Several of these studies are well represented in chapters contributed by the Garon, Chia, and Mah labs on lung cancer, and the Wadhera, Gordon, Pietras, and Dubinett groups on breast cancer and metastasis. Lee's friends from graduate school at Brown University (Drs. Hinshaw, Whartenby, and Mendelsohn) have written new perspectives on membrane remodeling, gene therapy and reprogramming, and transdifferentiation as a potential cancer therapy, respectively. Dr. Theresa Lavallee, whom Lee met when he returned to UCLA when Theresa was obtaining her Ph.D., and colleagues have submitted a chapter on the emerging field of immune-oncology, specifically targeting receptor tyrosine kinases with antibodies to improve treatment of cancers. My colleague Dr. Deep and I have written chapters on the burgeoning field of exosomes and extracellular vesicles and their roles in prostate cancer. I would like to thank all of the authors for their contributions. Not one of our requests to contribute to this issue was refused, demonstrating the respect and friendship for Lee.

Lee and I started graduate school at Brown at the same time and while becoming friends took an interesting course. We were not in the same Ph.D. program although we took some of the same classes. We both came from opposite sides of the country, i.e., LA and Boston, had different political views and, of course, favorite teams (Lakers and Celtics). Ironically, it was the enjoyment of playing basketball (Lee would never watch an NBA game with anyone in graduate school, occasionally an NCAA game), and not science, that initiated our friendship well over 30 years ago. Lee was admired for many qualities, perhaps one of the most prominent being the ability to have people both get and work well together. This was evident from the gatherings for graduate students and departmental members he had for the various Brown biomedical programs, organizing intramural and pickup teams, lab projects, and collaborations or to share the hamantashen on Purim that his mother would send from Stan's donuts in Westwood or other places. This, of course, continued when he returned to UCLA as a faculty

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member and later with his colleagues when he earned his executive MBA at the Anderson School of Business at UCLA. His office drawers were always filled with several different types of candies, chocolates, gum, etc., and omnipresent Nerf basketball hoops set up in different locations of the lab, hallway, and office. Our friendship continued when Lee moved back to LA in 1988. We collaborated on numerous projects and grants and published several papers together and saw each other quite frequently, at meetings or socially.

Lee was uniquely reliable in the timely commemoration of births, birthdays and anniversaries, and the other things that many of us lose track of. These are all, in a small way, a testimony to his character. His kindness and warmth and his ability to respond to any situation with a smile and sense of humor were a unique virtue. In addition to his wit and warmth came ingenuity and insight. As a scientist he worked diligently to understand the causes of diseases, and develop ways to clinically treat them. As a teacher at the UCLA Medical School, he helped shape the minds and hearts of future physicians, a responsibility he met and valued in its importance.

Paramount in Lee's life was family. He looked forward to the weekly Shabbat dinner with them and spending time with his niece and nephews, traveling and appearing unexpectedly during various trips. The nucleus of his family was completed after he met and married his wife, Rietta, and welcomed their son Joseph Johan in October 2011; marriage and fatherhood, two of his greatest enjoyments and responsibilities that he treasured, unfortunately, only for a very short time. The wealth of his spirit and personality are missed every day not only with family, but also with those who were fortunate enough to know him.

רבח ,מולשב דבכשמ לע חונ

Rest in peace, my friend.

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