

Robert Hastings Melchionna

July 23, 1907 — August 29, 1967

Robert Hastings Melchionna, M.D., an Associate Attending Physician of The New York Hospital and Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine on the faculty of the Cornell University Medical College, died on August 29, 1967, at sixty years of age. He had been associated with the Medical Center since 1935 when he became an intern in medicine. He also served on the house staff of the second (Cornell) division of Bellevue Hospital. He later worked in the Departments of Pathology and Pediatrics as well as in the Department of Medicine. One of his interests was endocrinology, and he published a number of research papers in this field between 1931 and 1938. He was appointed to the faculty of the Medical College in 1939 in the General Medical Clinic, where for over fifteen years he was a key teacher and clinician. As Physician-in-Charge on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, he was responsible for setting a high standard of excellence in the care of ambulatory patients. His interest in administration led to improvements in the organization of the clinic, and he was tireless in his efforts to create a proper learning atmosphere for students. Through his friendship and understanding, he was able to enlist the full support of nurses and ancillary personnel in the operation of the clinic.

He was a member of the American Medical Association, the American Rheumatism Association, the New York Pathological Society, and the American Society of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Melchionna was born in Brooklyn, New York, graduated from St. John's University in 1929, and received his medical degree from St. Louis University in 1935.

As a medical student, he was president of the Beta chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha, honorary medical fraternity, and president of Alpha Sigma Nu, honorary fraternity of Jesuit colleges. He was a member of the University Club and the Deep Sea Club at Montauk, Long Island. His recreations were sailing, fishing, and hunting.

Surviving is his widow, Mrs. Mae Beale Melchionna.

For all his many services to the Center in teaching and patient care but most of all as a loyal friend and colleague, he will be greatly missed.

George G. Reader, M.D.