



MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Alex Azar, MD

Whereas, On April 6, 2020, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society and its component, The Wicomico County Medical Society, lost a distinguished and inspiring member of over forty years, Alex Azar, M.D.; and

Whereas, Alex Azar, M.D., was born on May 4, 1939 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Upon graduating magna cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh Medical School in 1964, and completing an internship at Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital, in Johnstown, PA, he served in the U.S. Army, as a Captain in the medical corps at Fort Bliss, TX from 1965-1966; and

Whereas; Dr. Azar continued his studies at Ohio State University, becoming board certified in Occupational, Environmental, and Aerospace Medicine; and

Whereas; This led Dr. Azar to conduct research at E.I. du Pont de Nemours, and, this in turn, led him to complete an ophthalmology residency at the Ohio State University; and

Whereas, Dr. Azar joined Dr. Robert Dickey in 1976, in practicing ophthalmology in Salisbury, MD; and

Whereas, Over the course of 40 years, he founded the Peninsula Eye Center and the Azar Eye Institute, introducing new and innovative ocular surgical techniques to Maryland's Eastern Shore area; and

Whereas, Dr. Azar known for his devotion to his patients, never denied care due to a patient's ability to pay, and frequently made house calls, even performing eye surgery on a patient in a rocking chair, on his porch on Smith Island, MD; and

Whereas, During his tenure at The Johns Hopkins Hospital's Wilmer Eye Institute, Dr. Azar was voted most outstanding part-time Professor of Ophthalmology for two consecutive years in 2011 and 2012; and, in 2015, Dr. Azar was honored with the prestigious Arnall Patz Fellowship Award through the local Lions Club and the Wilmer Eye Institute, for his contributions to the field of ophthalmology; and

Whereas, Dr. Azar was the first and only physician member appointed to the five member Maryland Health Care Access and Cost Containment Commission, by Governor Schaeffer in 1996, and in the same year, Dr. Azar served as President of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society; and

Whereas, He was a member of the Board of Directors of The Center for a Healthy Maryland, the Wicomico County YMCA, the Board of the Three Lower Counties, and the Wicomico County Humane Society, Treasurer of the Camp Horizon Board of Directors, and an Officer of the Greater Salisbury Committee; and

Whereas, More recently, Dr. Azar enjoyed teaching in the Physician Assistant program at University of Maryland Eastern Shore and volunteering at the MAC Centers in Salisbury and Nanticoke; and

Whereas, Dr. Azar was preceded in death by his three older brothers, John, Jackie, and George Azar. Dr. Azar married the late Wilma Shockley Hoch Azar (2017) of Salisbury in 1991, and they enjoyed 26 years of marriage; and

Whereas, He is survived by two children from his previous marriage to Lynda Azar, Alex Michael Azar II (Jennifer) and Stacy Azar Dunne (Michael); two step children, Michael Casey Hoch (Tisha) and Corey James Hoch (Jenna);

grandchildren and step grandchildren include, Claire Elizabeth Azar, Alex Michael Azar, III, Emma Catherine Dunne, Luke Alexander Dunne, Keegan Azar Dunne, Cooper Finn Hoch, Sadie Quinn Hoch, Laney Grace Hoch, and Keller James Hoch; a sister, Mary Abdallah; several nieces and nephews; a sister-in-law, Bernice Azar; and Wilma's sister, Nancy Rogge (Chris); and therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of The Wicomico County Medical Society, MedChi and the MedChi House of Delegates have adopted this Resolution as an indication of the deep respect the medical community holds for Alex Azar, M.D.; and be it further

Resolved, that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and given to Dr. Azar's family as an expression of the high esteem in which Dr. Azar is held by his colleagues.

Presented, this Seventh day of November 2020.