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Louis Nutini was Erlanger doctor

Began practice in 1950

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

Dr. Louis J. Nutini died May 19 of natural causes at age 85. As a family physician in Erlanger, he delivered more than 1,000 babies.

"In January, I was at a big party in Front Royal, Va., where I live," said his daughter Carol Colacurcio. "I started talking to this woman I'd never met before. We got on to where I was from and my maiden name and then she lights up and says, 'Your dad delivered me.' "

Dr. Nutini made house calls that sometimes meant bringing along his own children.

"It was kind of fun," said daughter Kim Auel. "He would go out to whatever patient he needed to go to. We would stay in the car, he would take care of his patients, and then we would come home. He made us all a part of his life no matter what it was.

"He was very professional the whole time he was a physician and tried to keep his family and his practice as two separate entities but include us at all times."

He served in the Army during World War II.

"He was one of the greatest men I had the privilege and honor to know. He changed my life as I'm sure many others. He was the ultimate caregiver, mentor and friend," said longtime nurse Rosemary McGuire Kingston.

It started at home with his wife Gloria, whom he married in 1948. "He loved his wife totally," Colacurcio said.

"He came home for dinner every night," said his widow. "Sometimes it was very hectic, but he was there. We got along beautifully and just had a great relationship."

The two celebrated their 60th anniversary April 17.

"He would go to all of our recitals, ballets, whatever we were doing in school," Auel said.

Dr. Nutini started his practice in Erlanger in 1950. In 1954 he recruited a young intern who became his partner for 36 years.

"We never had one serious argument," Dr. Robert Heimbrock said. "We never had a problem. We were real good friends."

That even extended to their financial dealings.

"We made exactly to the penny every year the same," Heimbrock said. "All we did was wait until the end of the week, pay all the girls, pay the bills, then split it in two and take it home."

Heimbrock said they continued regular lunches into retirement. They ate together the day Dr. Nutini died.

"The two of us had lunch together like we always had. A couple of us were talking about when we died, we'd like it to go fast - and darned if he didn't go home that day and do it."

In addition to his wife and daughters, he is survived by another daughter, Patricia Staub; son, David Nutini; sisters, Anne Louise Elsner and Mary Ellen Miller; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services have been held.