

BIOGRAPHY ΒΙΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ

Dimitris Oreopoulos, my father

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Δημήτρης Ωραιόπουλος,
ο πατέρας μου

Περίληψη στο τέλος του άρθρου

Dimitrios Oreopoulos is best known for his innovations and contributions to the field of peritoneal dialysis. As his daughter, however, I have a different perspective on my father's greatest legacy, which I believe is love, faith, fearlessness and passion.

I have created a video that shares my experience of our father-daughter relationship, his role as a teacher and colleague to many around the world in the nephrology community, his belief in the necessity of compassion and connection during the delivery of medical care and his views on Christianity.¹

My father was my friend, mentor, and the greatest humanitarian I have ever known. My childhood is filled with good memories of foreign trainees at our home for Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners so they would not be alone for the holidays. I often witnessed my father give money to individuals in need, charities, and the Church. He maintained a corporate account that was used to help patients pay for medication or rent when they could not afford it.

My father taught me that words and ideas can change the world; he wrote letters to the Prime Minister, Steve Jobs of Apple, and Members of Canadian Parliament when he had a concern or a commendation, and was unafraid of failure or large problems that needed to be solved. He was able to create the first Greek School for children and the first Greek nursing home in Toronto, Canada, wrote a children's book and founded a medical journal that promoted the restoration of humane medicine. Always modest about his impressive accomplishments, he never strived to impress others.

One of the qualities I admired most about my father was that he could have a meaningful conversation with anyone no matter the race, age, religion or cultural background. He always found something to connect with people on. He made others feel loved and respected through being genuinely interested in their story, without passing judgment. My father's efforts in his own spiritual journey and his faith in the belief that there is always good to be found in any situation were also a part of his legacy that had a lasting impact on me.

ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ

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References

1. OREOPOULOS A. Memories of my father, Dimitrios. Watch the video on You Tube. Available at: <https://youtu.be/SqW985X-4quY>

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