

OBITUARY



10-05-1933 to 14-07-2022

Dr Senia leaves a void in the field of Endodontics

Dr (Col) E Steve Senia left for his heavenly abode on July 14, 2022, at the age of 89 years. He is survived by his wife Irene and son Steven. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Rosario and Grace Miriello Senia, both emigrated from Italy. Joining the US Air Force in 1953, he received his Jet Fighter Pilot diploma from the Air Training Command, and served as a Command Pilot. On June 16, 1956, he married the love of his life, Irene Fierros, in San Antonio, Texas.

He left the Air Force to pursue his interest in dentistry, earning a DDS degree with Honors from Marquette University in 1963. Upon graduation, Dr Senia re-entered the Air Force and completed a postgraduate residency in 1969 with a Master's Degree at The Ohio State University, specializing in Endodontics.

Retiring from the Air Force in 1981 as Colonel and Chairman of Endodontics at Wilford Hall Medical Center, he became the Director of the Endodontic Postdoctoral Program and a Professor at the University of Texas Dental School at San Antonio until his retirement in 1992. Dr Senia was a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics, served as a member of the Scientific Advisory Panel of the Journal of Endodontics, and consulted for the NASA space program. He lectured extensively around the world and published in national and international dental journals.

With Dr Bill Wildey, he invented the LightSpeed root canal instrumentation system (now available from Kerr Endodontics as LightSpeed LSX). With his deep passion for Endodontics, teaching and innovative thinking, he popularized the importance of addressing the Working Width and biologically optimal apical preparation that raised the bar of Endodontics.

I came in contact with him in 2004, went to San Antonio for a personal training and that started a lifelong association. Single-visit Endodontics became a reality with LSX, with no postoperative pain. He was a wonderful human being, soft spoken, patient, compassionate, and sympathetic. Endodontic fraternity will be deeply indebted to his contributions and he will always be remembered.

Dr Beena Rani Goel