

## Mourning the Loss of Dr. John Gawoski

Dear Colleagues,

We are saddened to note the death of John Gawoski, MD, who has been on staff in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine for the past 34 years. He passed away on Dec. 24.



From Niagara Falls, NY, John attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received his medical degree from McGill University Faculty of Medicine. He also received a certificate from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. John retained a Canadian flair throughout his career, insisting on British spelling and pronunciation, especially of medical terms, to the amusement of colleagues. He trained at New England Medical Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Deaconess, and spent some time at Lahey. He was hired in 1986 as a clinical chemist to help develop and manage the Laboratory Medicine Department. He fulfilled many roles over the years, including oversight of infectious disease serology testing and hemoglobin electrophoresis. Most recently, he had been serving as the medical director of the Microbiology Laboratory.

John was woven into the very fabric of the laboratory and Lahey. He was highly intellectual, a veritable encyclopedia of pathology. Though a personally private man, John was happy to share his knowledge, adding a dose of wit. He always had amusing personal stories to emphasize his points. In addition, he was an advocate for high quality patient care, graduate medical education, and education of our technologists. He offered strong support for our staff and was highly popular in the laboratory. His broad contributions to Lahey, our patients and our staff will be greatly missed.

Service arrangements have not yet been finalized. We are keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**Kurt F. Heim, MD, PhD**

Chair, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

**Malcolm Creighton, MD, FACEP**

Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine

Chair, Hospital Based Specialities

**Timothy N. Liesching, MD**

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