

Linda S. Brodsky, MD



The AAO-HNSF acknowledges the loss on February 13, 2014 of Linda S. Brodsky, MD, a member who will be long remembered for her commitment to quality care of her patients as surgeon, researcher, and mentor. She is also known and lauded for her dedication to the equitable treatment of all who practice in the specialty. Dr. Brodsky was a driving force behind the creation of the Women in Otolaryngology Section. She leaves behind husband Saul Greenfield and their three children Jeremy, Dana, and Rebecca.

Throughout her life, Dr. Brodsky strived for excellence in everything she did. Linda established “Brodsky Classification” of tonsillar disease, a diagnostic tool utilized by medical professionals throughout the globe. She has received numerous awards, including the Sylvan Stool award for excellence in teaching by Society for Ear, Nose and

Throat Advances in Children. She will be posthumously given the Tucker Award for her excellence and contributions to pediatric laryngology by the American Laryngological Association and the Bertha Van Hoosen Award for her service to American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA).

Dr. Brodsky has left an important legacy to AAO-HNS/F. She shared a vision with Pell Ann Wardrop, MD and Sujana Chandrasekhar, MD of creating a forum to recognize and respond to the needs of women in the specialty. Dr. Brodsky enthusiastically applied her energies in the successful creation of the Women in Otolaryngology Section. To best understand Linda’s impact, current WIO leadership share their reflections. One of these founders, Dr. Wardrop, gratefully describes one aspect of Linda’s contributions: “Linda had a talent with words. She was a word wizard. We would often be debating how to put a concept into words when we were crafting the WIO charter and she would quickly capture our intent and suggest wording that succinctly captured our ideas.” Current WIO Chair, Mona M. Abaza, M.D., M.S. reflects, “For anyone who knew Linda, her passionate nature about causes she cared about was always evident, but what many may not know is that her zeal was a significant reason why the WIO endowment and section exist. We are all indebted for her major role in making the WIO a reality. She will be dearly missed by all of us as a both a friend, colleague and supporter.” Marcella Bothwell, MD describes Linda as, “a rare force of nature who we as women all cherished and attempted to emulate.”

The vision of creating a WIO Section has become reality. This forum provides the Academy a dynamic professional community of women and men who seek gender equality in specialty. WIO serves as a valuable training ground fostering leadership of our female members, providing opportunities to understand governance and build and grow leadership skills.

Linda was also one of major supporters of the AAO-HNSF Women in Otolaryngology Endowment. She was among the first to pledge a Millennium Society Life Member commitment to help seed the endowment. This action set an example of philanthropic leadership and inspired others to contribute. The endowment serves to fund all the activities that Linda valued and championed for women in our specialty: fostering career and leadership development, promoting work/life integration, and addressing the needs of women's needs and interests through research.

You can honor the life and accomplishments of Dr. Linda Brodsky by making a donation in her name to the WIO Endowment. Your memorial donation can fund initiatives and continue the process of change and advancement that Linda championed. To make an online donation, [click here](#).