



Dr. Carlos Francisco Gonzalez MD

November 24, 1935 - October 13, 2025

On October 13, 2025, our father Dr. Carlos Francisco Gonzalez MD, passed away at the age of 89 from multiple complications of dementia. He was a true renaissance man, a polyglot, a pianist, a neurosurgeon and neuroradiologist and forever a student of life.

Born in Bogota, Colombia, Carlos was the oldest of two boys, raised by an extraordinary single mother who took over her deceased husband's business to support their small family. As a child, Carlos had a singular goal- to become a concert pianist. When that didn't happen, he took that passion into medicine- finishing medical school in Bogota and setting his sights on international residencies: Germany, Scotland and finally New York.

Shortly after, he came to Philadelphia, with his piano of course, and convinced a resident to attend a Rubinstein concert with him. Halfway through the concert, the resident switched seats with a beautiful blond-haired blue eyed German lady, Ingrid Niemann, so that she could sit closer to Carlos and be charmed by his masterful German skills. And thus began a 48 year marriage, a multitude of books on neuroradiology, countless presented papers at congresses around the world, and two beautiful multilingual, excellently educated and incredible daughters- Stephanie and Alexandra. Carlos practiced neuroradiology all over Philadelphia- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Hahnemann University Hospital, Temple University and Drexel. His

work inspired multiple generations of medical students.

Unfortunately, Carlos is preceded in death by our mother, Ingrid, whose 33 year battle with Parkinson's came to an end in 2020. Carlos was her caregiver, partner and MD, championing new medicines, operations, or trials - never giving up. It is without a doubt that he played a huge role in helping her live with the disease.

All throughout his life, Carlos continued with his lifelong passions: piano, languages, and travel. He was generous in his knowledge and wisdom; he was quick to laugh and even quicker to pick up his guitar; he spent summers watching Wimbledon, learning French on his Walkman, playing chess and tennis with his grandchildren, and buying books about art, and LPs of piano concertos.

Our father was a true gentleman. And we will miss him greatly.

Carlos is survived by his daughters: Stephanie Hijazi & son-in-law Mohamed Hijazi and their two children, Samir and Leila; Alexandra de Gonzalez and daughter Sabine. He is preceded in death by his brother, Jaime Gonzalez, and survived by his sister-in-law Lucia, and his nieces and nephews: Maria Constanza and her husband Alejandro Ramirez, daughters Isabella and Daniela; Felipe and wife Maria Fernanda Pieschacon, daughter Maripaz; and Ana Lucia, her partner Andres Ticino, and their children, Sami and Emilia.

A memorial will be held in his honor in the music room at Beaumont at Bryn Mawr on Saturday November 22nd, at 2pm. Please reach out to xandradeg@gmail.com or stephanie.hijazi@gmail.com for further information.

Dr. Gonzalez was a member and avid supporter of Young Musicians Musicales, now in its 92nd year offering performance opportunities to top

young classical performers from around the world in early stages of their careers. YMM presents daytime concerts in exceptional private homes in Philadelphia and its nearby suburbs. Marja Kaisla, the long time piano teacher of Dr. Gonzalez, is the Artistic Director of Young Musicians Musicales.

In lieu of flowers, you may make a contribution to Young Musicians Musicales by sending a check to YMM c/o Marja Kaisla, 590 Hansell Road, Wynnewood PA 19096 or on PayPal or Venmo to Marja Kaisla at mjkaisla@yahoo.com (with a reference to YMM).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Beaumont at Bryn Mawr
601 North Ithan Avenue
Bryn Mawr, PA

Tribute Wall

MG

“ *Maria G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Carlos Francisco Gonzalez MD.*

Maria G. - November 21, 2025 at 10:31 AM

SP

“ *Dr. Gonzalez was a lovely man. A true gentleman. Brilliant but self-effacing. He'd often joke with me that he was illiterate in six languages. I worked for him at Jefferson Neuroradiology for several years in the late 1990s, I guess it was. How quickly time has flown, yet how vivid memories of certain people remain. Anyway, we spoke daily of this and that, anything and everything it seems upon reflection. Serious but with a light touch that always added a bit of joy to my work day. My thoughts and prayers go out to Dr. Gonzalez's kind and gentle spirit and to that of his most adoring family.*

Steve Purcell

Steve Purcell - November 10, 2025 at 08:01 AM

GM

“ Carlos and I often took the train home together. We had a good time on the platform, too good a time, and we got on the wrong train. The next thing we knew, the conductor announced the next stop would be North Philly and he should have said, Overbrook. We must have been pretty loud because we jumped up to get off and the conductor said, loud enough for everyone on the train to hear, " and here we have the two Jefferson Professors getting off at North Philly where if they don't get killed they will die of pneumonia in the freezing rain. You two stay on the train , where you will be warm and dry. It the next train back to Philly." Everyone on the train laughed including us. If that wasn't bad enough we did it again two weeks later. Our wives were not happy, but we were. It gave us more time to talk. I will miss you, Carlos, Gerry Herbison

G.J Herbison, M.D. - November 09, 2025 at 04:17 PM

RR

“ I was a resident and Neuroradiology fellow at TJUH 1989-1995. Dr. Gonzalez was a true gentleman and excellent teacher. I have fond memories of working under and learning from him, and am deeply appreciative for my time with him.

Robert Rapoport - November 08, 2025 at 11:33 AM

DF

“ The obituary was a beautiful encapsulation of a rich and meaningful life. He really was a Renaissance man. May his memory be a blessing.

David Friedman - November 07, 2025 at 05:12 PM

PL

“ *Patricia L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Carlos Francisco Gonzalez MD.*

Patricia L. - November 02, 2025 at 07:52 PM