



UCSD  
MEDICAL CENTER  
University of California, San Diego,  
Medical Center

225 Dickinson Street  
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It is my very sad task to inform you that our friend and teacher, Dr. Tom Early, died on December 8th. Tom was one of the "founding fathers" of Family Medicine at UCSD, and was one of my first clinical supervisors back in 1974 when our clinic was the Linda Vista Health Care Center. Tom remained intimately involved with our program through all the years, selflessly giving enormous amounts of time and energy to our residents, faculty and students. To me he has always been, and will remain, the ideal family physician: learned, compassionate, warm and caring. Tom is my role model. I hope that all of the graduates of our program will learn by Tom's example; that we will grow as physicians, that we will forever build upon education and clinical experience, and that we will never lose our dedication and compassion for our patients.

The funeral service for Tom will be held this Saturday, December 12th at 1:00 pm. at the Lemon Grove United Methodist Church. His family requests no flowers. A fund in his honor has been created at the UCSD School of Medicine.

Upon the death of a close friend, Einstein remarked that theoretical physicists know that time is mutable, a fiction, but at a time such as this, it remains painfully convincing. There is an uplifting message in that. Tom remains alive in all of us, if we wish it to be so.

Sincerely,

*Bill*

William A. Norcross, M.D.  
Director of Residency Training  
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#### **Sad loss**

Friends of educator Julia Fenderson share her grief in the loss of her son, Dr. Tom Early, who passed away on December 8 of a heart attack at his home in LaMesa ... Warm tributes poured in for Tom; compassionate, warm, and caring — one of the "founding fathers" of Family Medicine at the University of California, San Diego Medical Center ... a life-long interest in the culture and social structure of Indian families and their problems, as well as their health, led him to devote two days per week for six years to the Southern Indian Health Council on the Barona Indian Reservation in San Diego County ... he'll be sorely missed by his friends and associates in the Indian and medical communities, as well as by his wife, Evelyn, five children, a grandson, brother Marty Early, and of course, his mother...