

# DR. JOSEPH AND RENÉE ARDITTI FAMILY NEUROSCIENCES FUND ESTABLISHED

*by Jane Barry, The Greater Saint John Community Foundation*

When newcomers arrive in a community, make it their home and a place to raise their family, they often develop a strong attachment which builds over the years. They frequently experience a desire to give back in some way to their adopted community and the place where they achieved success in their chosen professions and walks of life. Such is the case with Dr. Joseph and Renée Arditti. They have established The Dr. Joseph and Renée Arditti Family Neurosciences Fund with the Greater Saint John Community Foundation. It is to support annual awards to a deserving nurse who is pursuing post-graduate studies in the fields of neurosurgery or neurology. These were the fields of medicine in which Dr. Arditti has spent a noted medical career. The fund is also in memory of their family, son Eliezer and daughter, Perla.

Renée Menda Arditti is a native of Istanbul, Turkey. She received her education at the University of Istanbul, Faculty of Law and settled in Saint John with her husband and family in 1963. She is actively involved in the Jewish community and is a member of the congregation Shaarai Zedek and the sisterhood and a life member of HadassahWizo. She is a lover of music and appreciates handwork.

Born in Izmir, Turkey in 1929, Dr. Arditti obtained his medical degree from the University of Istanbul in 1954. In order to further his education, he emigrated to the United States, studying for two years in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he completed a residency in neurosurgery.

In 1962, he emigrated to Canada and began his practice of neurosurgery at the Saint John General Hospital. For many years, he was the only neurosurgeon in the province of New Brunswick treating patients requiring neurosurgical care. He served as head of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Saint John General Hospital from 1971-1979 and at its successor, the Saint John Regional Hospital, from 1979 until 1990, retiring from his practice in 1997.

During his career, he earned the admiration and respect of his medical colleagues and was a member of the Saint John Medical Society; New Brunswick Medical Association, the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Neurological and Neurosurgical Society. He was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a Certificant of the American Neurosurgical Board and the Association of Physicians and Surgeons of Quebec. Dr. Brian Wheelock, now Chief of Staff at the Saint John Regional Hospital, speaks highly of his former colleague, his skill, commitment and work ethic.

Active in the community, Dr. Arditti is a member of the Jewish War Veterans; a member of B'nai Brith Canada; a member of the Board of the Jewish National Fund of Canada; the Atlantic Jewish Council and a member of the Canadian Jewish Congress. He served several terms as both Board Member and President of the Congregation Shaarai Zedek and the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum. He also served as Board Member of Symphony New Brunswick.

Dr. Arditti has enduring respect and gratitude for the expertise and support of the nursing staff who worked with him throughout his practice, whether it was assisting him in the operating room, caring for patients at their bedside, teaching, or in department administration. As one who took on a teaching role in conjunction with his practice, he is passionate about continuing education, taking the lead in enthusiastically encouraging nurses to further enhance their knowledge and skills. He has a keen interest and desire to ensure continuing support for nurses seeking enhanced learning and expertise and has been instrumental in creating the Neurosciences Fund for that purpose.

Contributors who wish to support awards for nurses studying in the neurosciences field are welcome to augment the Dr. Joseph and Renée Arditti Family Neurosciences Fund. The fund has been entrusted to the Greater Saint John Community Foundation in April, 2010.



**Photo:** Dr. Joseph and Renée Arditti have established The Dr. Joseph and Renée Arditti Family Neurosciences Fund with the Greater Saint John Community Foundation to support annual awards to a deserving nurse who is pursuing post-graduate studies in the fields of neurosurgery or neurology. Renée Menda Arditti and her husband, Dr. Joseph Arditti, emigrated to Canada in 1962 when Dr. Arditti began his practice of neurosurgery at the Saint John General Hospital.



*Community Profile* is a weekly column highlighting community causes and work done by non-profit organizations in the Greater Saint John area. It is contributed by Jane Barry, executive director of The Greater Saint John Community Foundation. Contact the foundation at 506-672-8880, [sjfoundation@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjfoundation@nb.aibn.com). To view other Community Profiles go to [www.saint-john-foundation.nb.ca](http://www.saint-john-foundation.nb.ca)