

DR. WINIFRED FERNANDES 1916 - 1991

" A Tribute "



Dr. Winifred Fernandes or Dr. Freda, as most people affectionately called her, was born on 25th November 1916 at Poona. She came to Bombay to begin her medical career at the Grant Medical College in 1937. She graduated in 1941 winning the Poredi Gold Medal from Bombay University and a scholarship from the Grant Medical College for securing the first place in Medicine in the M.B.B.S. examination.

She continued her studies further and did her M.D. and then went to London to her M.R.C.O.G. She worked in various hospitals in London and returned to India gaining a degree and valuable experience in her field. She was appointed as an Honorary Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at the Cama & Albles Hospital, a post she held from 1951 to 1974. During this time, she also held attachments at several other hospitals and had a brief private practice.

She was Honorary Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and was a very keen teacher who went about training students with patience and dedication. She was an examiner for several years at Bombay University and C.P.S.

She was deeply involved with many Charitable and social organisations. She was an active member of Bombay Obstetric & Gynaecological Society, Association of Medical Women, Catholic guild and several other.

On retiring from private practice she went to live in Poona, enjoying the company of her family from whom she had been away for a long time. She did all the things she never had time for during her busy years of medical practice. She was very kind and a thoughtful person who gave such more than she received. She was always willing to lend a hand to those in need.

She was always so full of life and enthusiastic to learn something new. Every one who knew her or even met her only once, liked her and spoke well of her. She was always a happy person, who radiated happiness to thousands. She was true Christian with a true Missionary Zeal to do every thing with utmost sincerity.

As I pay a tribute to such an endearing person I can only say "May god grant her eternal peace".

Dr. Usha Saraiya

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