



Yes, It Was My Way. . .

From Your Friends and Family



Dedication to My Teacher

Little did I know that being accepted to the Northlake Hospital Residency Program in 1975 would have such a positive impact on my life. As the director of this program, Dr Weil created an educational experience that gave me the surgical expertise to move forward in private practice with the competence and surgical judgement that served my patients well and allowed me to find success and joy in my career.

Residents expect to learn surgical skills and techniques to assure successful outcomes. However, Dr Weil, through his own demeanor and behavior, emitted a sense of confidence and assurance both in the operating room and with patients that I have tried to copy. As an extern, I trembled in the operating room as he would say "justify your presence Zlotoff". I would grab a retractor off the back table and find something, anything, to retract!

Once in private practice, I also realized how difficult it is to hand over a scalpel to a resident and guide them through an operation on your private patients! Knowing that any mistakes might compromise the success of the operation or complicate the post operative care floated in my mind. But Dr Weil made this commitment to my education and I felt the need to pay it forward as I trained residents over the past thirty five years.

If that wasn't enough, I have come to see him as a friend and family man where he is again a powerful influence in my life. We share our love of family, friends and loyalty to those who fill our days with blessings. I am a very lucky man to have him as part of my life. To thank him seems trivial but to let everyone know what kind of a man he is as a doctor and friend seems like the least I can do. I can only pray that he continues to find health and joy for many years and continues to allow me to tag along on his journey.

Howard Zlotoff



DOC'S DYNASTY

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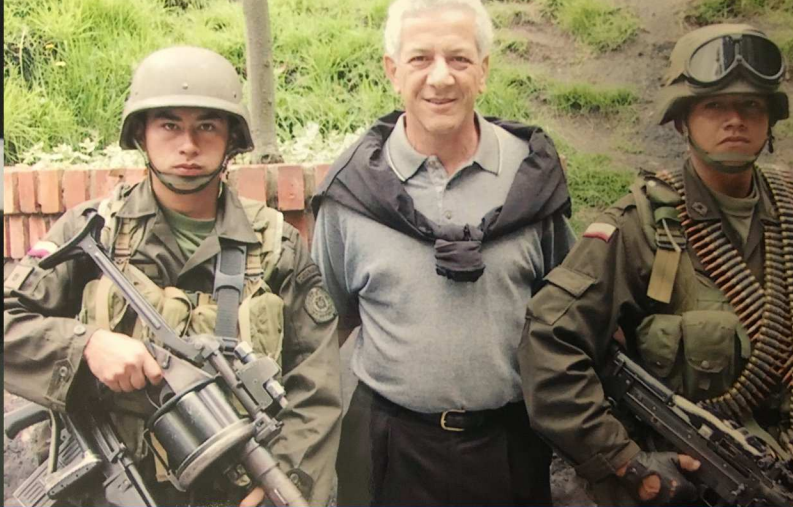
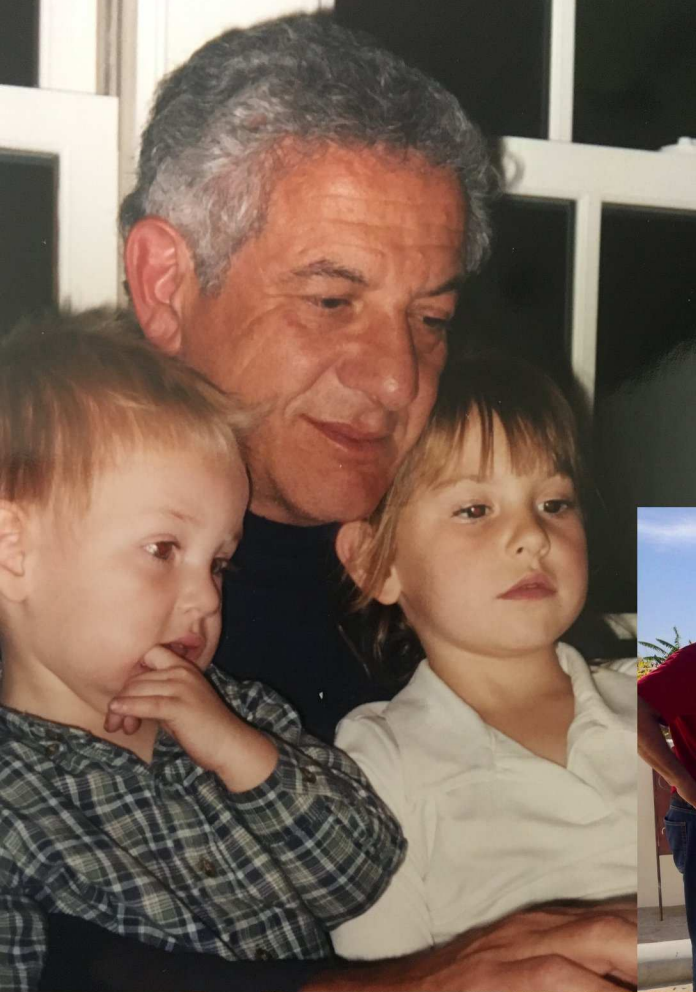
DOC'S DYNASTY

Lowell and Nancy-

***Best wishes from the
Coughlin Family in Idaho.***

**Your Friends,
Mike and Kirsten**





"Thank you for not throwing me out of the OR."



- Jay



"Best wishes from Keith and Holly Wapner. It has been a pleasure to have you as a friend for all these many years."



"Three things I learned about Sr. while a fellow: (1) he is a master diagnostician; (2) he is capable of seeing around corners and predicting the future; and (3) he could sell mezuzah's to the Chinese."

- Tom

ISLANDS OF
ADVENTURE



JURASSIC PARK
**RIVER
ADVENTURE**





*"Thank you for the
mentorship, training, and
friendship."*

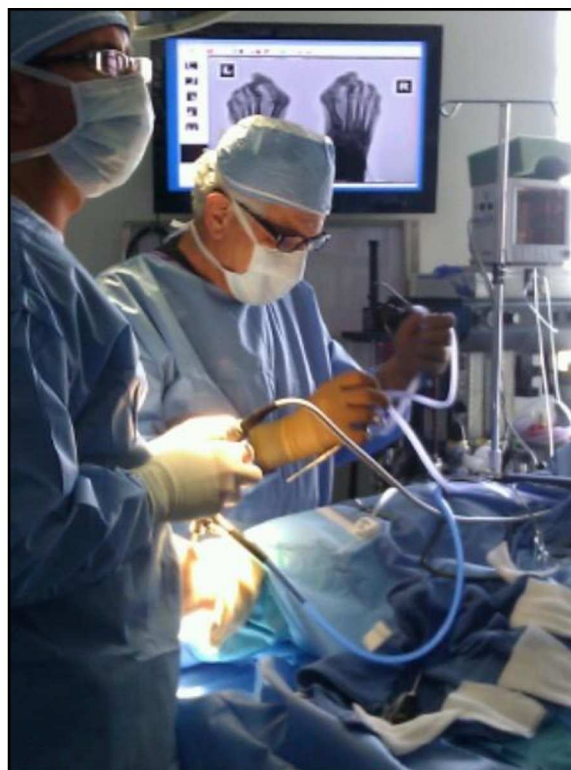
- Brian

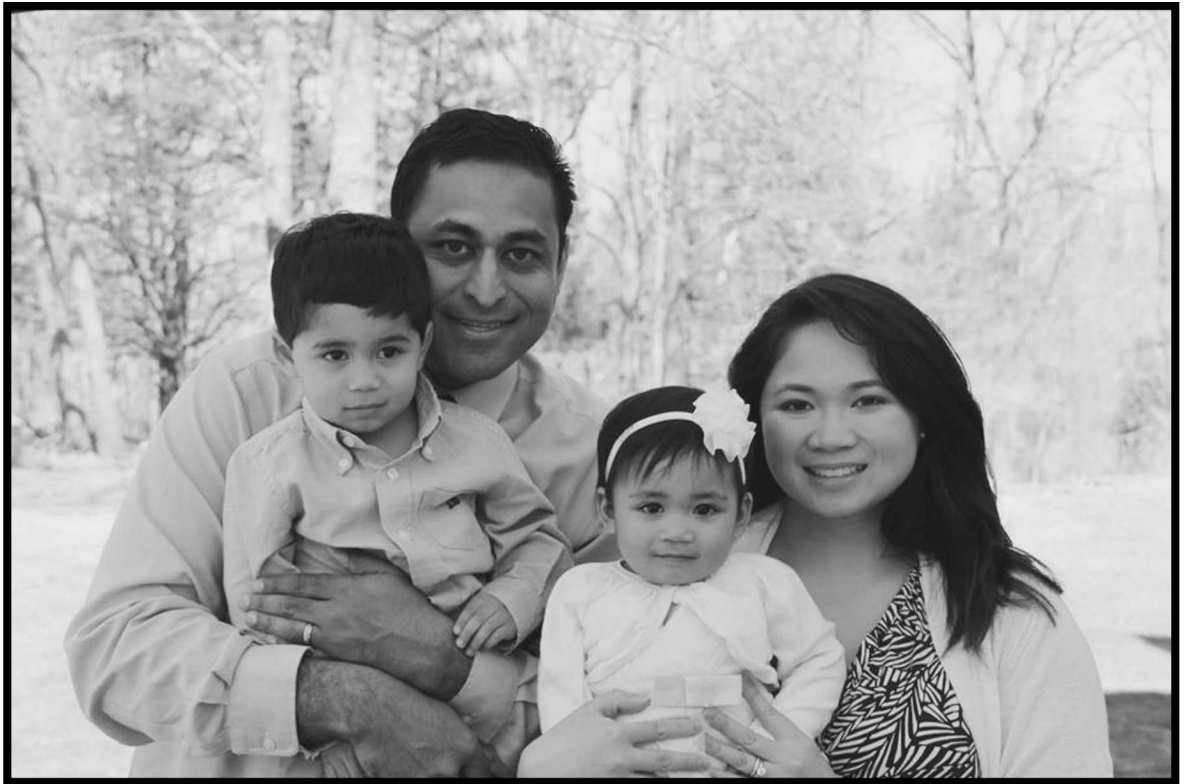


The likelihood that you meet a person in you life that will give you significantly more than you have ever given them is slim to nil. In 2006, that person came into my life! From that time forward you have been instrumental in who I have become as a surgeon, clinician, and father. May life continue to bring you happiness and joy. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Daren, Melissa, Amanda, and Tyler Bergman

**"Dr. Weil,
Thank you for all the great learning
points, tips and tricks which I
continue to use in my practice. You
have touched my life in so many ways
as well as all the people that you have
influenced through out your career.
You truly are 'the God Father' ".
- Michael**





"I'm reminded of Dr. Weil every time I look at my family. He taught me many things about podiatry but his most important lesson was to put family first"

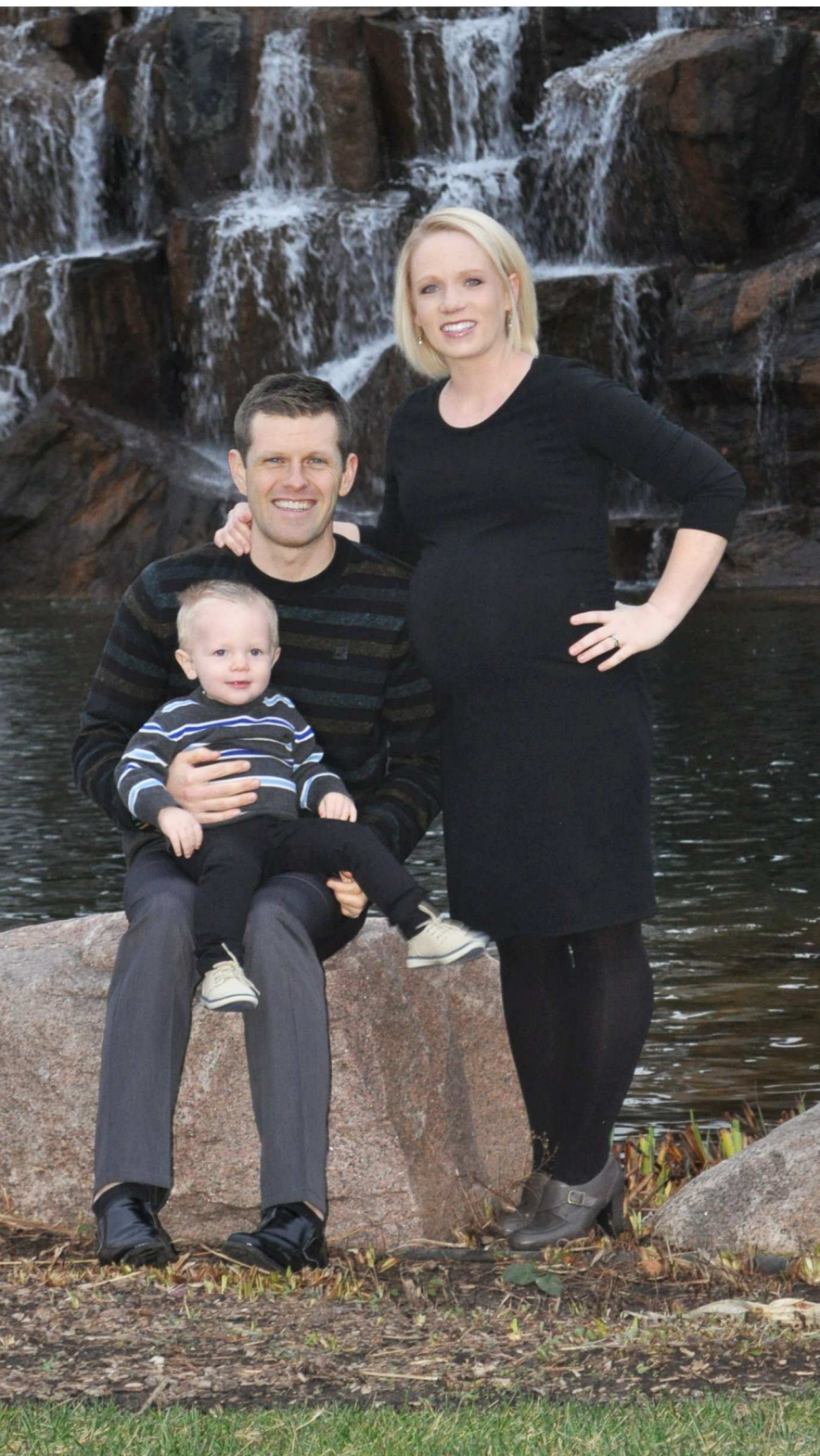
- Bobby and Kathy



From "The Irrational Season", by Madeleine L'Engle

"Ultimately there comes a time when a decision must be made. Ultimately two people who love each other must ask themselves how much they hope for as their love grows and deepens, and how much risk they are willing to take. It is indeed a fearful gamble. Because it is the nature of love to create, a marriage itself is something which has to be created. To marry is the biggest risk in human relations that a person can take. If we commit ourselves to one person for life this is not, as many people think, a rejection of freedom; rather it demands the courage to move into all the risks of freedom, and the risk of love which is permanent; into that love which is not possession, but participation. It takes a lifetime to learn another person. When love is not possession, but participation, then it is part of that co-creation which is our human calling."

- Jeff & Jessica



Dr. Weil,

Thank you for your enthusiasm and hard work as a podiatric surgeon. You have helped to make podiatry a great profession. I also wanted you to know I appreciate the time you have spent mentoring.

Sincerely,

Keith Arbuckle



***Lowell, seems like yesterday we were all at Northlake, a great beginning to a wonderful adventure. I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to train under your guidance. You and Steve were by far the most influential people shaping my career. Your inspiration led to the creation of a residency program in OKC that is still going strong. Becky and I treasure our memories of Chicago, the times spent with you and your family, and the lasting friendships with our fellow residents. Our best wishes to you and your family.
See ya in Austin.***

- W. Bradley Johnston, DPM.

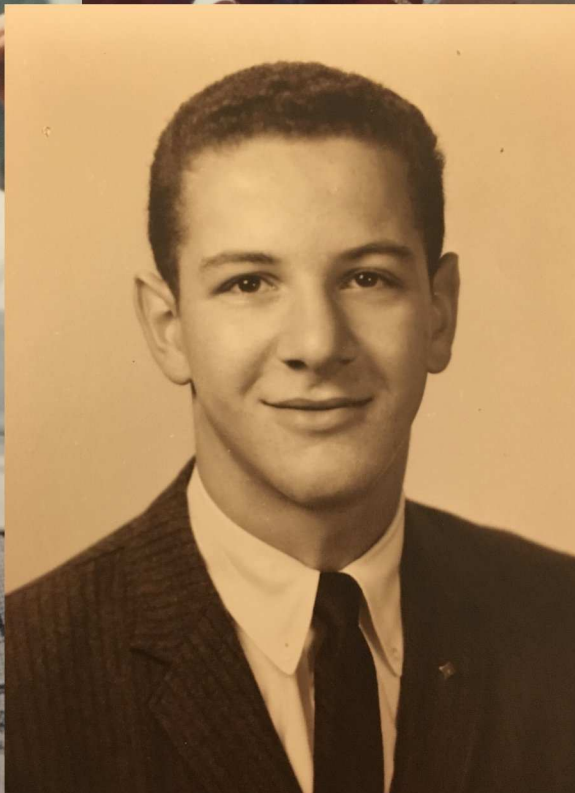
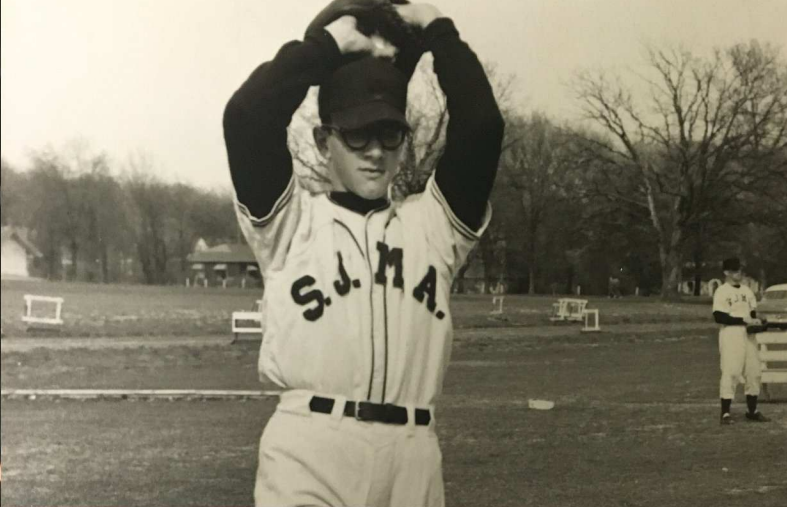


Lowell Scott Weil was (after my father) the most inspiring person in my professional life. My visit to Des Plaines as a very young surgeon in 2002 was life changing as he left his mark on me. I had the privilege of being received by him and Nancy at their home. I admired a lot of things about him: the Scarf of course, the Weil osteotomy, the capacity of working hard without visible effort, the quietness and the sense of organization.

The friendship between the Weils and the Barouks is deep, for a lot of reasons. One of the most remarkable common points between the 2 families is not only having a junior doing the same thing. It is that the two are blossomed, despite the shadow of these God fathers of the foot.

Thanks Lowell and long life to our fraternity.

- Pierre



Lowell, I'm proud to call you my friend. Thanks for all that you do!



- Terry



Whenever I see or hear your name Dr. Weil, various memories come to my mind. I think of your drive, motivation, dedication and hard work. I also think about peppermint candy, using bits of papers from your pockets to write down notes, and plaid golf shorts.

I admire the fact that you never gave up in spite of any obstacles that came your way. Working with you, I can see how patients appreciated the way you listen to them and communicated with them, treating them as a whole person, not just a foot condition. I am grateful for the opportunities that you gave me, sending a hug.

- Cathy





Senior,

I am where I am in life because of the great mentors I have had both personally and professionally. It is hard to sum up all that I learned from you before I trained with you, during my time under your tutelage and since I have completed my fellowship. I know that my time with you made me a better doctor, surgeon, person and family man. I am proud to have trained with you and to call you a colleague and friend. Thank you for all you have done for me and for our profession.

- Richard



"I don't know what other people are saying. But I would have to say that doing the WFAI Fellowship changed my career, pathway and over all presence/relationship with my colleagues. Dr. Weil Sr., not only impacted my surgical training but allowed me to see what it takes to be a leader in this profession. As a fellow I put in typically 10 to 12 hour per days. No matter how late I was at the office, Dr. Weil Senior was always there as well. Either working on business issues, answering countless emails from other practitioners around the world for his insight as well as always trying to improve himself not only as a surgeon but as a business leader. Dr. Weil, Sr., has been my greatest mentor in my career."

- John, Kelly, and AJ

"During my fellowship year, I chose to live in Lincoln Park so that I could experience all that Chicago had to offer. It also presented an inherent challenge: battling the daily morning traffic to Des Plaines to make it to work on time! On one of those fateful days that I was running late (again), I left my apartment without my requisite necktie. I chose the wrong day to forget, as I had clinic with LSW that day. When he saw me, he politely asked "Dr. Fridman, do you have a tie with you today for clinic?" I bashfully replied that I did not as I didn't want to return home to get one and be late to clinic. LSW motioned with his finger to follow him to the locker room, where he proceeded to open up his locker. He presented me with a tie that I don't think anyone has worn since the Nixon Administration. It was wide, plaid, and didn't have two colors that matched each other any place on it. It was the necktie equivalent of a dunce cap. He watched me as I uncomfortably donned the most ridiculous piece of clothing I have ever worn, and then I looked up at him, with an obvious embarrassment. "You will wear this tie all day in clinic with me. And I know how much you hate it because I can see it in your face," he said. "And I bet, that you will never leave home unprepared for clinic again." And as is with most things with LSW, he was right."



- Robert, Randi, Spencer and Stella



Thank you Lowell Sr. for all you have done for us--as a pioneer, as a leader, as a source of inspiration. I feel very fortunate to call you a friend and am inspired every time we speak. I hope to accomplish even a 1/10th of what you have done.

Congrats on an outstanding career. No one has done more for the DPM world both within the walls of our profession but even more so within the orthopedic community nationally and internationally. You have had had a huge impact on me professionally and personally. THANK YOU.

Now go enjoy some time off!!

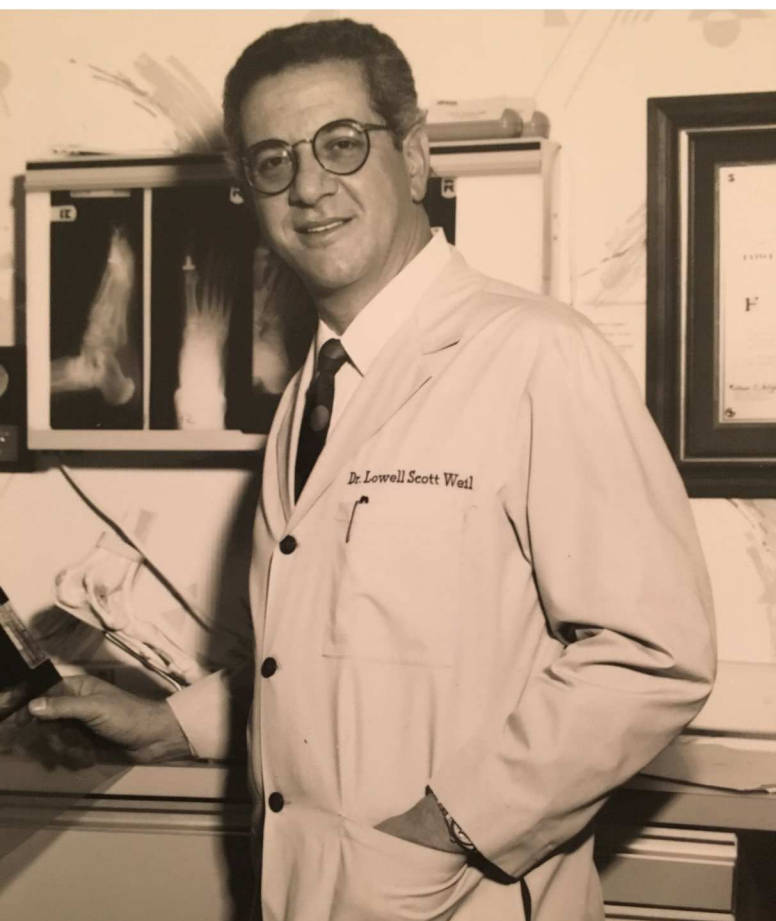
**Your friends,
Chris and Stephanie Hyer**

Life is amazing in that the people that cross your path and how you learn so much from them. I feel that way about you sir and your impact on my career. I feel as though I have known you all my life as almost like we are family, especially since your daughter gave me my first job out of college and your son let me hound him until he took me as a fellow.

From the 1st time you called my home in 1997 in Mississippi, I have learned so much about life and work not just from words you have spoken but the life you have exemplified. Your impact on the profession and this world is immeasurable and to see how much you have impacted the lives of so many people from around the world, I am just blessed and fortunate to have been one! Thank you sir

Jarrett D. Cain





Dear Lowell,
In 1998, thanks to Dr B Valtin and My Master Professor Judet, I could get a rent for three Months at your side. At the time I was a freshly graded surgeon, but you received me like a prince. For each lacuna of mine, you patiently took time to teach me and show me all the tricks that only a long and wise experience can bring. Thank you. You also provided me with a better place to stay than the shabby motel I could afford, recommending me to keep the house of your friends who were leaving on summer holidays, and then trusting me to live in your own house, lending me your cars or anything I might need... I was very touched by your confidence!
I will be for ever deeply thankful for all you taught me. it is a pleasure and an honor to have met you. Great thank you. with all my admiration and friendship. Avec toute mon amitié.

- Wilfred Graff

"It's the art of subtleties. You had a way with subtleties and intricacies that only years of experience and innovation could afford.

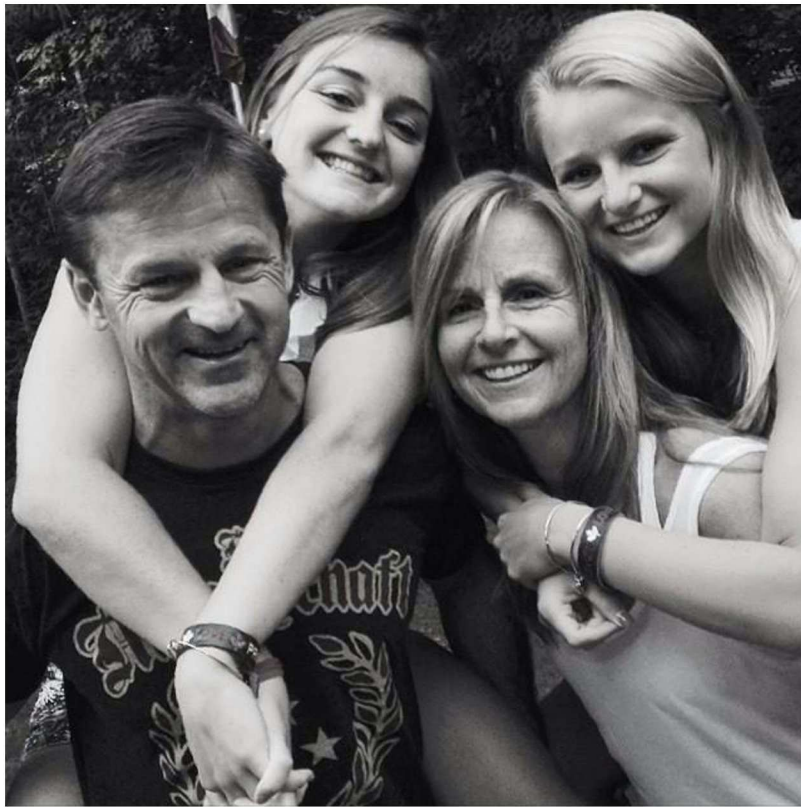
I cherish the times we had during and after clinic to discuss patient cases. Our times in the O.R., watching you work and talking me through techniques. I truly appreciated your perspectives.

I was inspired by the way you carried yourself. Your demeanor and class. Motivated by watching you read prolifically to stay ahead of the game, in not just medicine, but business.

My experience with you was priceless. Thank you for influencing the way I look at and approach situations in my every day practice. I can't thank you enough."

- Shine, Angie, Madilyn and Emily





Here are my brief thoughts:

It is a true honor to celebrate Lowells' impactful influence on the world of foot and ankle care. His conviction of principled concepts molded through incredible experience, delivered with his characteristic gentle demeanor, has defined a strong and powerful Weil brand. Lowells' commitment to his family first, patient care excellence, and integrity makes him a friend for the ages. Thanks for being a great ambassador and friend Lowell, we appreciate you.

- Greg

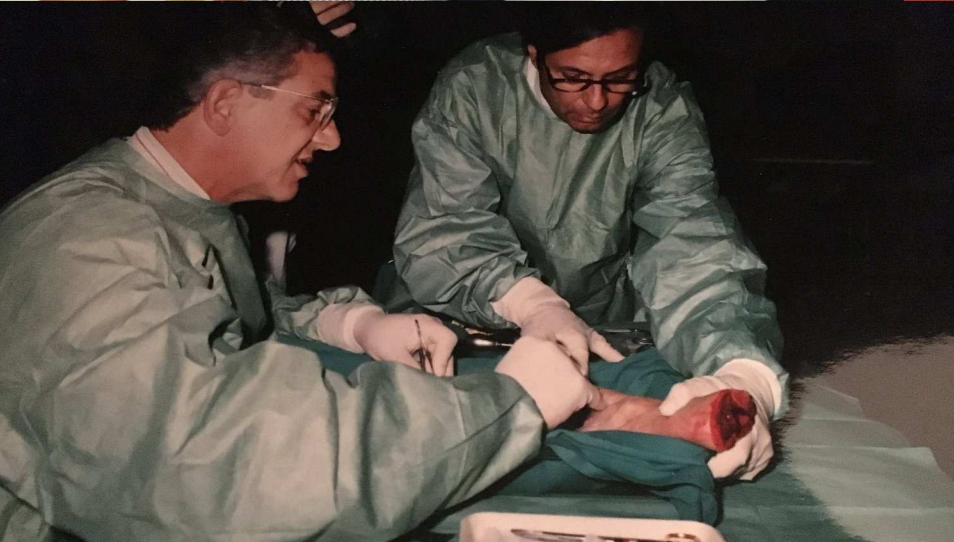


"You'll get better."

Many moons ago, when Dr Weil, Sr, was the residency director of Northlake Hospital, there was a wee resident. On this particular morning, this resident was REALLY excited. He was allowed to perform his very first Austin bunionectomy from start to finish under the supervision of Dr Weil, Sr. He was so excited!!!! After the procedure, he was at the scrub sink before the next procedure along side Dr Weil, Sr. The resident was scrubbing and looking at Dr Weil, Sr....and he was scrubbing and looking at Dr Weil, Sr. Finally, the resident said, "Well, how did I do?" with the eager eyed enthusiasm that one commonly sees in the eyes of a golden retriever who wants to play ball. Dr Weil, Sr, without looking up, without looking over and without any hesitation said, "You'll get better."

I think, looking back, that this is the one story about Dr Weil, Sr, that defines his career as well as what he has taught so many people - including me. All of us start fellowship at one place and end at another. During that year, and generally well beyond that year, we get better - at diagnostics, with our hands, with our language, with our ability to read people, with our ability to communicate with people.... and because we continue to get better, we will eventually be the best that there is and we will do it our own very special way - just like Dr Weil, Sr.

- Erin





Sometimes, in the history of Science, or Art, or simply the life, there is one man, just only one, who definitively changes the way what was. This occurs very rarely but it did occur to foot surgery with Lowell Scott Weil. So we can write now that there was a history of foot surgery before Lowell, and there is another one since Lowell Scott Weil. I was tremendously fortunate to be one of the first who perceived and lived this L S Weil change in foot surgery :

My first important rendez vous with this was in San Francisco, in 1991, when Lowell showed me the Scarf Osteotomy. My second was the following year, in July 1992, when Lowell went to teach the Scarf osteotomy to the french orthopedic surgeons at the Bordeaux meeting. During that same meeting, there was another seminal event: the first time Lowell performed the Weil distal lesser metatarsal osteotomy. Both were introduced in just two days a part in Europe! Lowell's foot surgery contributions are critical important and by far, not limited to the Scarf and Distal metatarsal osteotomies. Even still now, Lowell is working on emerging new procedures! But I have chosen just to report this historical Bordeaux meeting with some following pictures from the video made for this event by the French Television. Following this, I had been traveling all around the world these last 25 years, particularly to teach these Lowell Foot procedures and Philosophy. All the world foot surgeons are grateful to Lowell, absolutely. All along this period, the links with Lowell were regularly increased, as well as our friendship. We cannot count the number of meetings and things, devices (the FRS Screw for example) we made together!

Furthermore, our respective sons, Pierre and Lowell Junior are taking over for us. I am now retired, this provides an advantage not to have more of my head in the grindstone, so I can see the things more objectively, and I realize truly what Lowell's huge contribution has had on foot Science. Additionally, the last but perhaps the better thing, is that Lowell lights are not reserved just for the Science : he is a wonderful man, not only absolutely charismatic, but also extremely close and attentive to the others... And simply for me more than a friend.

Thanks you Lowell

- Samuel





*And now, the end is near
And so I face the final curtain
My friend, I'll say it clear
I'll state my case, of which I'm certain
I've lived a life that's full
I traveled each and every highway
And more, much more than this, I did it my way*

*Regrets, I've had a few
But then again, too few to mention
I did what I had to do and saw it through without exemption
I planned each charted course, each careful step along the byway
And more, much more than this, I did it my way*

*Yes, there were times, I'm sure you knew
When I bit off more than I could chew
But through it all, when there was doubt
I ate it up and spit it out
I faced it all and I stood tall and did it my way*

*I've loved, I've laughed and cried
I've had my fill, my share of losing
And now, as tears subside, I find it all so amusing
To think I did all that*

*And may I say, not in a shy way
Oh, no, oh, no, not me, I did it my way
For what is a man, what has he got?*

If not himself, then he has naught

*To say the things he truly feels and not the words of one who kneels
The record shows I took the blows and did it my way
Yes, it was my way*