

DR. ANGELES GARCIA AMEIJERAS

Dr. Angeles Garcia Ameijeiras was born in Barcelona, Catalunya, on September 25, 1952, and spent her youthful years challenging Franco's fascist dictatorship in Spain. Angeles graduated from the faculty of medicine at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona in 1975 and worked as an endocrinologist in Barcelona before moving to Canada.

Upon arriving in Canada, Angeles re-completed her residency while in her forties on the way to becoming a geriatrician. She subsequently became a professor and devoted her career to the study of Alzheimer's and other related diseases. In Kingston, Angeles established a long-standing memory loss clinic that provided support and comfort to patients suffering from cognitive illnesses throughout the greater Kingston area and beyond for almost two decades. Angeles' advocacy and passion for patient wellness led to countless professional contributions spanning her career, such as the creation and implementation of training modules for family doctors for earlier detection of mild dementia (thus contributing to earlier treatment and shorter clinic wait lists), providing patients the option to enrol in clinical trials to access new and alternative treatments, co-founding several national and international clinical and research consortium's, and developing a rich research portfolio that included patent-pending methods for Alzheimer's disease detection.

A strong believer in the power of doctors to improve communities around the world, Angeles travelled to Cuba with the Cuban-Canadian Friendship Association to provide medical support to communities in need. She also travelled to El Salvador as part of the El Salvador Committee to teach literacy to underprivileged communities and to monitor elections.

The memory and the example of a strong, determined, and courageous woman, a fighter, and a good and generous person who cared for her family, friends, patients, community and communities around the world will live on.

(Excerpt of a piece written by her son Victor MacDiarmid)