



Editorial team with Craig Gilberd and David Cahill

It is with profound sadness that I share the news of Dr Dean Lines' recent passing. Dean had a significant and positive impact on our profession during the 1970s and 1980s, contributing through his practice, education, and political involvement.

I had the privilege of starting my career with Dean in 1977. As a young and inexperienced 23-year-old Palmer graduate, I was welcomed into a nurturing and highly educational environment that paved the way for a successful future in chiropractic.

Dean was a meticulous and dedicated practitioner, who was well-known in the Riverland, South Australia. At one point, we had over 20,000 patient files in a town with a population of barely 10,000. Virtually the entire town of Berri and its surroundings were or had been patients at our practice.

We specialised in Gonstead, with SOT and BEST as our non-force techniques. Our X-ray methods were second to none, thanks to the instruction from Felix Bauer and Clarence Gonstead. Dean even brought Ted Morter, the founder of BEST, to Australia, a testament to his passion for tackling challenging cases.

Dean had a special interest in treating vaccine and brain-damaged children. He incorporated dietary considerations into his treatment protocols and had a keen interest in allergies, ensuring no detail was overlooked. His results were extraordinary, as I came to realise when I inherited many of his patients after his retirement. To them, Dean was a health god, radiating faith, confidence, and belief in chiropractic and his ability to deliver exceptional care.

I became a partner in the practice, feeling secure under his mentorship and ready to continue his legacy. After retiring from practice, Dean joined the teaching staff and served as Senior Lecturer of the *RMIT Chiropractic program* in Melbourne. Upon retiring from there, he and his wife Judy returned to their beloved Riverland, resettling in Barmera.

On behalf of myself and all those who knew Dean, I extend heartfelt condolences to Judy and daughters Michelle and Nicole. They were fortunate to share their lives with such a dedicated, loving, and steadfast man.

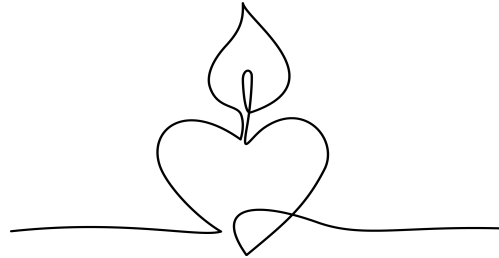


I hope Dean is now reunited with his son Anthony, a chiropractor who tragically passed away in a surfing accident in Bali.

Here's to both of you!

Dean, you will be deeply missed. Thank you for all you've done to improve the lives of so many.

Craig Gilbert DC



Along the journey that is becoming a chiropractor, we all need teachers. If we are fortunate, we come across exceptional ones and the teaching becomes inspiration. That happened for me with Dr Dean Lines.

I will give you just two examples: It was a second-year tutorial, in 1988, near the top of the Siddons building at PIT, and the subject was Chiropractic Radiographic Analysis. I was soaking it up. There seemed to be something special about it. I stayed behind after the class to ask a question of our lecturer, Dean, and after answering my question, he asked me how I was going with the course in general. As usual, he was both genuine and sincere, and I replied saying how what we were learning seemed to be making sense and I was starting to picture how I was going to be able to help people. I went further to say I was excited about it, and he looked at me with his clear eyes and said, simply yet powerfully: *'You know David, it just keeps getting better'*.

That one encounter has fuelled me to this day, particularly during the inevitable challenges, and has proven to be correct.

Another moment was a talk Dean gave at the *Dynamic Growth Congress* on the Gold Coast in 1992. It was titled *'A Dose of Wisdom'* and through tears borne out of passion for our profession, he gave us his definition of chiropractic success; that when you get to the end of a day, look back, and know you have given your best service to each and every person you have seen that day, you have been successful.

Dean's gift of those words I have recalled time after time in the 32 years since, and in my opinion, it's a definition that works. Colleagues I have spoken to recently regarding Dean have all expressed similar sentiments; lovely man; great teacher; really cared; utmost integrity; gave us his all; made us think.

Dean clearly taught out of a genuine desire to make a difference, and his difference continues to live on in so many of his students.

Thankfully I reconnected with Dean last year and he re-joined the ACA as a retired member. I believe he was enjoying the connection.

The ACA, on behalf of the profession he both loved and served with distinction, wishes its heartfelt condolences to Dean's family and closest friends.

Thank you, Dean

*David Cahill
President, ACA*

The greatest tribute that I as a writer can offer to a loved mentor is to share a piece of their writing which has greatly influenced me.

In the Journal's website we reproduce Dean's paper from 1989, the year of my graduation. Here is the abstract:

The chiropractic profession has achieved considerable acceptance by the public, the legislature and the scientific community since its inception in 1895. Now, as never before, it stands at the crossroads of its professional direction. The health care delivery system of the western nations is under pressure and is poised to undergo considerable change in future.

The manner in which chiropractic will enter the twenty-first century will depend largely upon the outcome of the critical decisions which will need to be made by decision makers at all levels in the overall chiropractic community as they respond and react to these changes.

The first of these two papers presented the background from which the major issues which should be confronted and considered by the profession have arisen. In this paper, these will be discussed and some strategies suggested which will assist the profession in dealing with the difficult issues it must resolve if chiropractic is to survive this century as a separate, distinct and well utilised health profession.

From: Lines DH. Chiropractic in the 21st Century: The past, the present, and the future. Part 2: The Future: Strategies for survival, growth and development. J Aust Chiropr Assoc. 1989;19:49-54.

Vale Doctor Lines, may your god bless your journey and thank you for gifting your passion, excitement, and respect for this marvellous thing called 'Chiropractic'. I'm with you, *'it does just keep getting better'*.

*Phillip Ebrall
Editor*

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