Dr. Mario L Milani

'n Bekende naam in Vereeniging.
Dr. Mario L Milani : 'n Besonderse mens.

Wie was Mario L Milani?
Waarom is daar 'n straat in Vereeniging na hom vernoem?

Ek het bietjie met hom gaan gesels(2018) en verstom gestaan oor sy veelsydigheid en sy groot rol wat hy nie net in Vereeniging gespeel het nie, maar landswyd, selfs internasonaal.

Dr. Mario L Milani was 'n kenner van Vereeniging geskiedenis met 'n groot groot liefde vir hierdie histories belangrike dorp. Hier het hy opgegroei en grootgeword en het kosbare jeugherinneringe soos vaar met 'n seilbootjie op die Leeuwkuilpan, piekniek op die walle van die pannetjie, ens. Hy het 'n reuse rol gespeel in die ontwikkeling van 'n myndorp na 'n groot nywerhheidsdorp/stad, na 'n handelsentrum.

Die ryke geskiedenis van Vereeniging en die groot rol wat Vereeniging gespeel het in die geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika, veral tydens die ABO, was vir Dr. Milani baie belangrik. Hy het 'n groot bydrae gelewer in die bewaring van die geskiedenis en die bewusmaking daarvan.

Deur sy visie en vergesig kon hy Vereeniging lei na 'n handelsdorp en 'n groot rol speel in die ontwikkeling van bv. Markpark.

Deur sy vasbeslotenheid en onderhandelingsvermoë, is die FW de Klerk brug gebou (1992) om die gekraakte enkelpadbrug oor die Vaal te vervang. Onder sy leiding is 'n nuwe pad gebou om die druk op die duikweg in Rhodeslaan te verlig . Die pad, Mario L Milani Drive, is na hom vernoem.

Bekende Dr Mario Milani oorlede

Die Vaaldriehoek groet Vrydag dié geliefde ereburger van Vereeniging

R. Fitchat | June 23, 2019

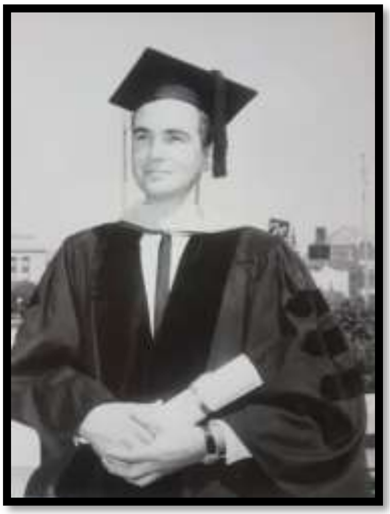
'n Foto van dr. Mario Milani en sy vrou, Kay, wat in 1981 in Vaalweekblad verskyn het.

Bekende ereburger van Vereeniging sterf

Kom ons vind meer uit oor Dr Milani

Mario Luigi Milani

Gebore: 7 Desember 1938 in Mafeking
Oorlede: 19 Junie 2019 Vereeniging
Ouers: Alice Francis (Prior)   en   Mario Milani (Kaapstad). Sy pa bou Yskor Vanderbijlpark se aanvanklike staalstrukture (1947)
Grootoupa: Martino Milani vanaf Italië. Sy oupa het as tiener per skip vanaf Italië na Amerika gereis. By die aandoen in Suid-Afrika het hy agtergebly, gedros, die reuk van die vrag beeste was glo een te veel vir hom. Hier in Kaapstad begin hy werk as skrynwerker en ontmoet vir Magdalena van der Wath, met wie hy trou ten spyte van groot weerstand van haar familie.
Skooljare; tot St 3 in Mafeking. Verhuis na Vaaldriehoek. St 3 – 5 Laerskool Hendrik van der Bijl in Vanderbijlpark.
Voltooi skoolloopbaan in Vereeniging
Werk as Passer en Draaier
Meganiese Ingenieurs Diploma 1959
Chiroparaktisyn : Lincoln Chiropractic College in Indianapolis, Indiana VSA
Doctorate in Chiropractic (D.C.) 1964
Huwelik met Kathryn Janice Scovel (Kay) 1964
Chiropraktisyn praktyk in Vereeniging 1965
Drie Kinders: Deborah Kay , Mario Martin en Jennifer Alice(oorlede)



NATIONAL COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

LOMBARD ILLINOIS

The President and the Board of Trustees,
in recognition of outstanding merit and accomplishments, confer upon
Mario L. Milani
the honorary degree of
Doctor of Laws
with all the rights, privileges, honors, and responsibilities pertaining to this degree.
In Witness Whereof, the seal of the college and the signatures of its duly authorized officers are affixed at Lombard, Illinois,
dated this 14th of October, 1988

Lincoln Chiropractic College

Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A.

This Certifies that Mario L. Milani
has satisfactorily completed the Course of Study in
Physiotherapy
as taught in the Lincoln Chiropractic College and
is hereby granted this
CERTIFICATE

Lincoln Chiropractic College

Mario L. Milani

Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.)

Vereeniging Stadsraad

Mario L Milani dien 30 jaar as aktiewe lid van die Stadsraad van Vereeniging, 6 termyne, die langste dienende Raadslid. Vier van die 6 termyne as Onafhanklike lid. Vanaf 1972.
Hy tree op as Voorsitter van die Vereeniging Eeufeeskomitee 1992
Voorsitter van die F W de Klerk Museum 1992

As erkenning vir sy baanbrekerswerk in Vereeniging se ontwikkeling , ontvang Mario L Milani ereburgerskap van Vereeniging 1992

Die straat voor Riviera Hotel word na hom vernoem, Mario Milani Drive

Uit: Die Geskiedenis van Vereeniging PJJ Prinsloo November 1992
P201, 204

"Ereburgers
Sedert dorpstigting het die Stadsraad van Vereeniging reeds vyf ereburgers aangewys. Ereburgerskap word aan 'n person toegeken op grond van die diens wat so 'n persoon aan die gemeenskap gelewer het. Hierdie toekenning van 'n plaaslike owerheid word kragtens die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, no. 17 van 1939 gemaak. Op gesag van hierdie ordonnansie is die volgende toekennings gemaak:
Kolonel K. Rood (Kallie)
S. Fourie
AJ Botha (Skippie)
FW de Klerk
ML Milani"

" M.L. Milani
Op 28 November 1992 is ereburgerskap aan dr. M.L. Milani toegeken, op grond van die leidinggewende diens wat hy op verskeie terreine aan die gemeenskap van Vereeniging lewer. Dr. Milani lewer diens aan die gemeenskap deur 'n leidende rol in verskeie organisasies en verenigings te speel. Hy is 'n alombekende Chiropraktisyn wat ook aandele in ander besighede en eiendomme besit. Mario Milani is gedurende 1972 as raadslid en in 1973 tot die Bestuurskomitee verkies. In die munisipale verkiesings van 1977, 1981 en 1988 is hy telkens herverkies. Sedert 1973/74 tree hy as voorsitter van die Bestuurskomitee op. Hy dien ook as die onder-voorsitter van die Vaaldriehoek Streekdiensteraad, vanaf die instelling van hierdie raad in 1987. M.L.Milani het ook as 'n lid van die Vaal River Guide Plan Committee van 1977 en die State Committee on Urban Renewal van 1979 gedien. Hy het ook op nagenoeg 30 ander komitees gedien. Dr. M.L.Milani het ook 'n groot bydrae in die beplanning en bestuur van die Stadskouburg in Vereeniging gelewer. Sedert 1977 dien hy as die voorsitter van die Stadskouburgkomitee. Dr. Milani het ook 'n groot rol in burgerlike projekte gedurende die afgelope 30 jaar gespeel. In 1988 het hy die titel Raadsheer van die Vereeniging Stadsraad ontvang."

Dr. Mario L Milani ontvang Ereburgerskap van Vereeniging 1992

Bydrae deur sy eggenoot Kay Milani (2020)

“A Man Well Lived and Loved

Mario L Milani was born in Mafeking in December 1938. He was the oldest of four children born to Alice (Prior) and Mario Milani.

Mario’s grandfather, Martino Milani, came from Italy to Cape Town as a very young man. In Cape Town he was apprenticed to a furniture factory and learned to make furniture. In later years Martino worked for a well known family in Mossell Bay, and fell in love with the daughter, Catharina van der Wath. The family did not approve, and the family story is that the two of them eloped. For many years, the family did not speak to Catharina. Martino and Catharina had six children: Mario, Anetta, Michael, Catherina, Martin and Aida. When the sons became men, they all had bank accounts at the same bank as their father, Barclays, and because none of them had middle initials, the bank continually mixed up their accounts.

After serving in the army during World War 2, Mario’s father worked in the construction industry. He supervised the construction of many of the cooling towers still in operation: Colenso, Tugela, Soweto and Arnot to name a few. During 1952, his father fell off the Highveld tower and broke his back. The doctors thought he would not live, but he survived, and, after nearly two years in the hospital, he was back working, constructing another tower. Mario and Alice had four children: Mario L, Eric M, Bernice K, and Anetta M.

Mario L matriculated from Vereeniging Technical College and obtained his mechanical engineers diploma in 1959. As a result of sporting injuries and the subsequent chiropractic care from Dr. Trevor Roberts, the local chiropractor, who encouraged him, that “he is a smart guy and could be a chiropractor;” Mario embarked on a career change and left SA to study in the United States, where he obtained his qualification.

While obtaining his qualification, Mario worked forty hours a week to support himself and paid his own studies at Lincoln Chiropractic College in Indianapolis, Indiana. The first job Mario had was at the Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis where he met his

future wife, a nurse at the hospital. He married her, Kay (Kathryn Janice) Scovel, in 1964. Later that year he obtained his Doctorate in Chiropractic (D.C.). They returned to South Africa with their first child, Debbie, (Deborah Kay) in arms. They opened their own practise in Vereeniging in 1965. At that time patients were charged R2.50 per treatment.
In the late1960's and through the 1970's Mario was actively involved in the "Jaycee" organization. He was the World Vice President of Junior Chamber International in 1971 and is an international Senator of JCI. Part of Jaycees' creed "service to humanity is the best work of life" seemed to become Mario's life motto. Two more children, Mario Martin and Jenny (Jennifer Alice), completed his family.

Mario served his community as a city councilor for six terms of five years each. For thirty years he represented the constituents of Three Rivers Extension 1. Mario served as chairman of the management committee for eighteen years and was the first alderman in Vereeniging's history. He was chairman of the Vereeniging Centenary Committee in 1992 and also chairman of the F W De Klerk museum. In recognition of his role in the development of Vereeniging, 'Mario Milani Drive" was so named.
Iin 1992, he was awarded the Freedom of Vereeniging and Honorary Citizenship.

Mario's relationship with the Potchefstroom University started in 1973 when he served on a city council committee that was tasked to establish a university in the Vaal Triangle. He was part of the decision to grant land to the present satellite campus and supported the annual council grants to help finance the extension to Vereeniging. He was awarded the Senate Gold Medal for Outstanding Achievement from Potchefstroom University in 2002.

On the chiropractic side, Mario was awarded "Chiropractor of the Year Award" in 1976. This was to be the combination of his political experience, many connections, sheer determination and subsequent lobbying that saw the following history unfold:
Mario was elected to the council of the South African Chiropractic Association and he offered to serve as its president in 1980. At this time there was no professional registration and no-one was volunteering to tackle the role of president of the association. Mario then proved instrumental in the drive for professional recognition of chiropractic practitioners by parliament. It was within one year that an act for the establishment of "The Chiropractic and Homeopathic Associated Professions Council" (now known as the Associated Health Services Council) was passed by all three houses of parliament – a huge achievement on behalf of South African chiropractors! Once it was officially established by parliament in 1982, Mario was elected as its first president, (a position he held for fifteen years). Mario then actively involved himself in the pioneering of legislation relating to chiropractic acts and also in establishing two training faculties in South Africa. He is an honorary life member of the Chiropractic Association of South Africa.

Dr. Milani served as an honorary colonel in the South African Army, Group 17, Vereeniging Commando unit for several years.

Mario played golf at Maccauvlei Golf Club and enjoyed playing on various courses throughout Gauteng. He joined the Rand Water running club and completed many

marathons and the Two Oceans Ultra Marathon on two occations. In June, 2000 he ran the Comrades Marathon.
Six weeks later, in August, 2000, Mario was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and had several sessions of chemotherapy treatments. In spite of his condition, he continued in his practice until 2014.

Debbie, his eldest child, married Paul Willis, a chiropractor from New Zealand. They live in Christchurch and have three children: Luke, Serena (studying in her third year to be a chiropractor) and Sophia.

Mario Martin, also a chiropractor, married one of his American classmates, Lara Warnagiris. They practise together in Spring Hill**,** Tennessee and have twins: Alexis and Nicholas.

Jenny, his youngest, died as the result of injuries in a car accident in March1995 on her way back to visit her alma mater Rhodes University.

One of Mario's favourite pass times was enjoying the national parks and taking photographs of God's magnificent creatures, or sitting by a bonfire at night under the stars. He also enjoyed travelling and, after his retirement, managed to take many exciting trips. To celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, Mario surprised Kay with a cruise to Hawaii. On his 'bucket list' was a visit to the Serengeti which he did in 2017 with Kay and one of his chiropractic classmates.

Mario died on 19 June 2019 and is sorely missed by his family and many who knew him."

4

Vaal groet geliefde raadsheer Mario Milani

Vaalweekblad, 26 Junie - 28 Junie 2019 Nuus www.vaalweekblad.com

VEREENIGING. - Een van die Vaaldriehoek se bekendste openbare figure van die afgelope vier dekades, Dr. Mario L Milani (80), is Donderdag na 'n moedige geveg van 19 jaar teen kanker, oorlede.

Hy sal nie net onthou word vir sy diens as chiropraktisyn in die plaaslike gemeenskap nie, maar ook vir die groot rol wat hy in die ontwikkeling van Vereeniging gespeel het.

Na voltooiing van sy studies in Amerika het hy sedert 1965 as chiropraktisyn in Vereeniging gepraktiseer. Hy was ‘n lewenslange erelid van die Chiropractor Association of South Africa en is in 1976 met die “Chiropractor of the Year”-toekenning vereer. In 1988 het hy ‘n ere-doktorsgraad van die National University in Chicago in Amerika ontvang.

Dr. Milani was vanaf die begin van die 1970’s tot met sy uittrede uit plaaslike regeringstrukture ‘n stadsraadslid van Vereeniging en het 18 jaar as voorsitter in die bestuurskomitee gedien. Hy was ook die eerste raadsheer in die geskiedenis van Vereeniging.

Hy was in 1971 die wêreldwye vise-president van die Junior Kamer van Koophandel en is as ‘n internasionale senator van dié organisasie benoem. Hy was ook erekolonel van die Regiment Overvaal en Groep 17, en voorsitter van die Vereenigingse stadskouburg komitee. Daarby was hy ook voorsitter van sowel die Vereenigingse Eeufeeskomitee as die FW de Klerk-museum.

Die Vryheid van Vereeniging en ereburgerskap is in 1992 aan hom toegeken as blyk van waardering vir sy enorme insette in die uitbouing van die dorp, wat in sy dienende jare ook stadstatus gekry het.

As erkenning vir sy rol in die ontwikkeling van die Vaaldriehoek is ‘n rylaan van sewe kilometer langs die Vaalrivier tussen Vereeniging en Vanderbijlpark na hom vernoem.

Een van sy toekennings wat hy besonder waardeer het, was die gesogte kanseliersmedalje wat hy in 2002 van die Noordwes-Universiteit ontvang het vir sy groot rol in die vestiging van die destydse Potchefstroomse Universiteit se Vaaldriehoekkampus.

Dr. Milani word oorleef deur sy vrou, Kay, hul seun Mario Milani (jnr.) en dogter Debbie Willis, skoonkinders en kleinkinders. Hul jongste dogter, Jenny, het jare gelede in ‘n motorongeluk omgekom.

Dr. Milani se begrafnisdiens word Vrydag, 28 Junie, om 14:00 in die Rooms-Katolieke Kerk op die hoek van Krugerlaan en Edwardstraat, Vereeniging, gehou. Die gesin versoek dat in plaas van blomme, ‘n donasie liewer aan die Kankervereniging of Dierbeskermingsvereniging gemaak word.

Kort CV van Mario L Milani (Soos verkry van homself in 2018)

“Mario L Milani was born in Mafeking in 1938. He matriculated from the Vereeniging Technical College and obtained his Mechanical Engineers Diploma in 1959. He then studied Chiropractic at Lincoln Chiropractic College in Indianapolis, USA, and in 1964 obtained his Doctorate in Chiropractic (D.C.). During 1964 he completed a six-

month residency in radiology and returned to South Africa where he opened his own practice in Vereeniging in 1965. He was elected to the Council of the South African Chiropractic Association and became President in 1980.

When the Chiropractic & Homeopathic Associated Health Professions Council was established by Parliament in 1982, he was elected as its first president, a position he held for 20 years. Dr. Milani served on chiropractic-related councils for the past 45 years. He played an active role in the drive for professional recognition of chiropractic by Parliament. He was actively involved in the pioneering of legislation relating to Chiropractic Acts and in establishing two faculties of training for these professions in South Africa. He was awarded the “Chiropractor of the Year Award “ in 1976, and received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from National Chiropractic College, Chicago, USA, in 1988 (LL.D.). He is an honorary life member of the Chiropractic Association of South Africa.
He was the World Vice President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1971 and is an international Senator of this organization.
At the same time Dr. Milani served his community as a City Councilor for 30 years. He was chairman of the Management Committee for 18 years and was the first Alderman in Vereeniging’s History. He was awarded the Freedom of Vereeniging and Honorary Citizenship in 1992. He was chairman of the Vereeniging Centenary Committee in 1992 and Chairman of the F.W. de Klerk museum. In recognition of his role in the development of Vereeniging, a 7 km. Highway along the banks of the Vaal River was named the “Mario Milani Drive”.
Dr. Milani’s relationship with the Potchefstroom University started in 1973 when he served on a City Council committee that was tasked to establish a university in the Vaal Triangle. He was part of the decision to grant land to the present satellite campus, and supported the annual council grants to help finance the extension to Vereeniging. He was awarded the Senate Gold Medal for Outstanding Achievement in 2002.
Dr. Milani served as a Colonel in the South African Army, Group 17, Vereeniging Kommando Unit.
He played many sports and later in life played golf and ran the Comrades.

He retired after practicing as a Chiropractor for 50 years in Vereeniging.

Dr. Milani is married to Kay, and they had 3 children, 6 grandchildren.”

Afskeidsete 2014

In Loving Memory to One Amazing Man by Lucinda van Os (Lucy)
Briefie wat Lucinda van Os aan Dr. Milani geskryf het:

Lucy and Kay Milani

“Dr.
Ek is so bang Ek kry dalk nie die Geleentheid om 'n paar dinge van my hart af te kry wat Ek nog altyd wou sê. So.... here goes
Die Here het vir Dr. en Kay op my pad gesit meer as 10 Jaar gelede vir 'n Baie groot rede. In die tyd wat Ek by Julle gewerk het het Ek so baie van myself geleer wat Ek nooit geken het nie.
Deursettingsvermoë
Eerlikheid
Opregheid
Liefde
Omgee vir Jou naaste, ag die lys gaan aan en aan en aan. DANKIE Daarvoor.
My Hart breek vir Dr. wat elke dag veg teen die siekte. Sterker mens as Dr. het Ek in my HELE lewe nog nooit ontmoet nie. Die uithouvermoë om aan te hou baklei teen 'n siekte wat min mense so lankkkk teen kan veg. Waar gaan Ek weer so' n mens ontmoet? Dr. se Vrou en kinders en kleinkinders het 'n Ongelooflike Man Pa en Oupa. Dr. is spesiaal vir My en Ek Koester elke memory, tot by Sun City waar ek en Martin kom kuier het.
Vir Kay staan Ek by, DIT belowe Ek vandag, maak nie saak wat die Toekoms inhou nie.
Nou Voel my Hart ligter
Gesond word, wees Sterk, Glo in Ons Almagtige Vader en Verlosser.
Met al my Liefde
Lucinda”

My letter above said almost all that could be said about the doctor that I worked for more than 5 years. When I started working there I never knew he was actually "famous." That I soon realized, and, that there is even a street was named after him. Even when FW de Klerk phoned and I answered, he asked to speak with Dr. Milani!

Working for Dr. Milani and Kay were the best years of my life. Every Monday and Wednesday doctor would bring fresh cut roses from his garden to put on his desk as well as in the reception. We had such fun moments!!!!
There were sad moments when he got sicker and had more pain. In the afternoons before doctor went home, he would lie down on one of the beds in the clinic for me to massage him after a day's work.

We kept in contact throughout the years. He would sent the most beautiful pictures of nature and birds while he and Kay were on holiday. He truly loved nature itself. They even came to visit me and my family when we were on holiday in Balito. How sweet of them. How I miss those days. Kay and I are still in contact almost every day, and yes, sometimes we reminisce about him and the things he would say and do.

Tears of joy fill my eyes to have had the opportunity to meet, work and play with Dr. Milani and Kay. I love them like my own parents.
Love and Regards
Lucy

Eie opmerkings: (Kobie Ströh)
Dr. Mario L Milani was 'n uitsonderlike mens op vele gebiede.

Ek het hom leer ken as pasiënt,maar mettertyd hom leer ken as 'n mens met 'n goue hart en empatie wat nogtans te alle tye sy professionaliteit behou het.

Selfs gedurende sy lydingstyd as siek mens, kon almal nog na sy raad en leiding opsien.

Dit is tragies dat die nuwe politieke strominge in die "nuwe" Suid-Afrika vanaf 1994 veroorsaak het dat hy nie meer die voortou kon neem nie en weinig erkenning verkry het vanaf die "nuwe" Stadsraad.

Vereeniging is baie bevoorreg om 'n man soos Dr. Mario L Milani in sy midde te kon hê.
'n Man wat deur sy toewyding baie veranderinge ten goede teweeg gebring het.
'n Man wat kwalik sy hartseer kon verberg as hy die agteruitgang in sy geliefde dorp gesien het.
Sy nalatenskap sal bly staan.
Sy herinneringe sal geëer word.

Ek dra my samestelling van die Geskiedenis van Vereeniging aan hom op. Hy het my belangstelling geprikkel, raad en inligting verskaf en aangemoedig om die ryke geskiedenis van Vereeniging neer te pen. .

Finale Afskeid 2020

Enkele fotos uit Dr. Mario L Milani se Fotoalbum

John Vorster 1970

John Vorster 1970

FW de Klerk 1984

Mangosuthu Buthelezi 1987

PW Botha 1985

Vereeniging kry Stadstatus 1992

Staatspresident Nelson Mandela 1999

Verskuiwing van Vredesmonument 1990. Dr. M Milani

Terrein van Onderhandelinge vir Vrede van Vereeniging 1992