James F. Holland, MD, FASCO, was a legendary oncologist and cherished member of the Mount Sinai community. Internationally renowned in the field of medical oncology, Dr. Holland helped pioneer the use of combination chemotherapies for the treatment of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia, thus transforming a disease thought to be incurable into one with an 80 percent survival rate. For this groundbreaking work, Dr. Holland shared the Albert Lasker Clinical Medical Research Award in 1972.

Dr. Holland also helped to develop the “7 + 3” regimen—a method used to treat acute myeloid leukemia around the world—and identified new treatments for testicular cancer and osteosarcoma.

Throughout his storied career, Dr. Holland influenced a multitude of students, colleagues, and staff with his intelligence, enthusiasm, and determination to effect change through clinical cancer research. In 1973, Dr. Holland joined Mount Sinai, where he established and chaired the Department of Neoplastic Diseases (later the Division of Neoplastic Diseases within the Department of Medicine). He also served as Chief of the Division of Medical Oncology from 1973-1993 and Director of The Derald H. Ruttenberg Cancer Center from 1985-1993. Most recently, he served as the Distinguished Professor of Neoplastic Diseases at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He continued his 20-year research into the underlying cause of breast cancer and regularly saw patients.

Dr. Holland’s leadership was instrumental within numerous scientific associations. He served as president of the American Association for Cancer Research and the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and co-founded the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer. His editorial collaboration with the late Emil Frei III, MD, spawned nine editions of Holland-Frei Cancer Medicine, which remains a premier reference for those who treat cancer patients.

Dr. Holland was born in Morristown, New Jersey, on May 16, 1925. He graduated from Princeton University and received his medical degree from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Holland was predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Jimmie C. Holland, MD, a trailblazer in the field of psycho-oncology. He was the beloved father of six children and nine grandchildren.
Celebration of Life
James F. Holland, MD, FASCO
May 16, 1925 - March 2, 2018

Music

Mark S. Holland, Piano | Peter A. Holland, Guitar

Distinguished Speakers

Introduced by William K. Oh, MD
Deputy Director, The Tisch Cancer Institute

Dennis S. Charney, MD
Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
President for Academic Affairs
Mount Sinai Health System

Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc)
Chief Executive Officer
American Association of Cancer Research
Philadelphia

Larry Norton, MD
Deputy Physician-in-Chief for Breast Cancer Programs
Medical Director, Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center
Norma S. Sarofim Chair in Clinical Oncology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Jerome W. Yates, MD, MPH
Clinical Professor
Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health
University at Buffalo

Olufunmilayo I. Olopade, MD, FACP
Walter L. Palmer Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine and Human Genetics
Associate Dean, Global Health
Director, Center for Clinical Cancer Genetics
The University of Chicago Medicine

Barry S. Coller, MD
David Rockefeller Professor
Physician in Chief
Vice President for Medical Affairs
The Rockefeller University

Steven M. Holland, MD
Director, Division of Intramural Research
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institutes of Health

Peter A. Holland, JD
Attorney, The Holland Law Firm for Consumer Rights
Annapolis, Maryland

Mary S. Holland, JD
Faculty and Director, Graduate Lawyering Program
New York University School of Law

David C. Holland, JD
Attorney, Holland Litigation, New York

Lewis Silverman, MD
Director, Translational Research for the Myelodysplastic Syndrome
The Tisch Cancer Institute
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Ramon Parsons, MD, PhD
Director, The Tisch Cancer Institute
Professor and Chair, Department of Oncological Sciences
Ward-Coleman Chair in Cancer Research
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai