

Tribute to Dr. Joseph Zanga

Through a series of events in 2002 and amid disappointment with the policies of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Dr. Zanga collaborated with three fellow pediatricians to create the American College of Pediatricians. In a move of incredible bravery and at the risk of tremendous political persecution, Dr. Zanga accepted the nomination to be our first president.

At its inception, the College needed professional legitimacy and Dr. Zanga brought this to the College. Many pediatricians joined simply because he was president and some, I'm convinced, did so simply to meet this Icon face to face. Several member pediatricians were convinced (and even politely coerced) by Dr. Zanga to serve as board members of this fledgling organization.

Joe's insight into professional medical organizations (as a past-president of the AAP) and their inner workings brought strategic enlightenment to the College Board. Joe's presence on the Board through the years has been inspiring and encouraging to us directors. Lastly, Joe's wisdom has given discernment and, at times, needed moderation to the work and direction of the College.

Dr. Zanga served four years as president, four years as past president and four years as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Even in his retirement, he has joined us at Board meetings to inspire. The highest honor that can be bestowed upon a member of the College is the *Master of the College*. It is officially described as "the highest honor of the College's Membership, may be conferred on a Fellow who has made significant contributions to pediatrics and/or child health and has been an active Member in good standing at least ten years." It requires a 2/3 affirmative vote by the Board — this vote was unanimous.

It is with deep affection and great appreciation on behalf of the Board of the American College of Pediatricians that I present this certificate signifying Dr. Joe Zanga as the first Master of the College.

Den A. Trumbull, MD, FCP

Past President

September 29, 2017