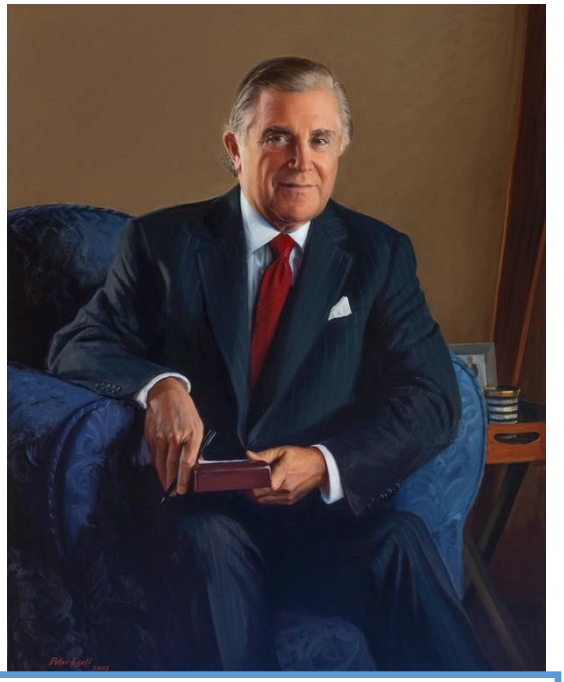
Sidney Kimmel's

Commitment to Cancer Research



Portrait of Sidney Kimmel by Peter E. Egeli, 2003

Sidney Kimmel was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1928, the son of a cab driver. Raised during the Great Depression, he served two years in the Army, and attended Temple University. As a young man, he began working in the garment industry. He was a gifted businessman. In 1970, he founded Jones New York, a division of W.R. Grace. As his company grew, it created designs and marketing for many designer clothing brands, including Anne Klein, Gloria Vanderbilt, Stuart Weitzman and 9 West. The company went public in 1991. Mr. Kimmel stepped down as CEO of Jones New York in 2002, but remained Chairman of the Board until the company was sold in 2014. He founded Sidney Kimmel Entertainment (SKE), a movie production company that has produced over 40 movies.

"I had a reputation for making quality clothes, I wanted to make quality films", he said.

The Sidney Kimmel Foundation was founded in 1993, after his best friend's daughter died of cancer at the age of twenty-five. The Kimmel Foundation focuses on healthcare, education and the arts.

In 1996, The Kimmel Foundation donated $9 million to the San Diego Regional Cancer Center. It was one of the organizations that treated his best friend's daughter. Their research focused on creating vaccines for some forms of cancer. Over the decades that followed, the Kimmel Foundation donated a total of $27 million to this organization, now renamed The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center.

In 2001, The Kimmel Foundation donated $25 million to Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York City for their prostate and urological cancer treatment facility.

Also in 2001, the Sidney Kimmel Foundation made their largest single cancer research donation of $150 million dollars to Johns Hopkins University. Johns Hopkins Cancer Center is now named the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. In 2016, Michael Bloomberg joined Sidney Kimmel in a joint contribution of an additional $100 million to establish the "Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy", also at Johns Hopkins University.

In 2014, Sidney Kimmel generously donated $110 million to Thomas Jefferson University in his home City of Philadelphia. In recognition of this donation, the University re-named its medical school the "Sidney Kimmel Medical College". In addition to his generosity towards Thomas Jefferson University, Mr. Kimmel also donated $63 million to the construction of the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts in Philadelphia.

Four cancer centers in the United States are named for Sidney Kimmel and he is among the nation's most generous supporters of cancer research. In his own words, "I guess everybody will say, 'I hope for a cure. You're not going to hear that from me because I'm not sure there is a cure. What I'm hoping for is that we can control it through prevention and early diagnosis, and proper treatment, and educating people, so that people can live longer lives."

Mr. Kimmel celebrated his 93rd birthday on Saturday, January 16th.