

Jaffe

These notes were made during a phone conversation with Dr. Bernard Jaffe on June, 24 2019 at 11:00 ESDT. These stories were not recorded.

Dr. Jaffe had three interesting stories about Dr. Sabiston that he wanted to share.

The first story was about his first interaction with Dr. Sabiston. Dr. Jaffe met Dr. Sabiston while he was training at Hopkins. About 10-12 years later Dr. Jaffe was surprised when Dr. Sabiston remembered him from when they were at Hopkins together. Not only did Dr. Sabiston remember Dr. Jaffe, Dr. Sabiston also remembered that Dr. Jaffe had intended to pursue orthopedic surgery. During our phone conversation, Dr. Jaffe expressed that he was surprised Dr. Sabiston had remembered not only his name, but also his interest in orthopedic medicine.

The other story involves Dr. Sabiston's niece and her roommate, Dr. Jacquelyn Maher, who now works on GI at UC San Francisco. Dr. Maher and Dr. Sabiston's niece were often invited over to Dr. Sabiston's house for Sunday dinner. Dr. Maher remembers distinctly that Dr. Sabiston's niece called Aggie, Aunt Aggie, but called Dr. Sabiston, Dr. Sabiston instead of Uncle Dave.

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Jaffe [00:00:00] We had arranged with Dr. Halsted (Dr. Sabiston) to be visiting professor at the medical school at the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center and before he came we specifically arranged it. But, because before he came we were able to identify and find and photograph that the burial grounds of Dr. Stuart Halsted who was the role model for Dr. Sabiston. He had been lost and not found for a very long time because the way they documented his burial was incorrect it had the in the date of interment off by a couple of days. It was actually a couple of days later I think and that date was... made it almost impossible to find him because it's a huge cemetery and the recordkeeping was all by... purely by the date of internment. So, he had been lost for a very long time and no one had any idea where he was. And it took a fair amount of time and doing to actually find him. But, we did and we had the grave. We brought him [Dr. Sabiston] to the grave. Very emotional moment. We actually had a resident who knew how to do it... do a rubbing of the grave... the gravestone which we gave him [Dr. Sabiston]. And we have... I have a picture, which I think I can find it, I'm not sure... of him and me at the gravesite. It was a very emotional moment for him because he was such a real strong advocate of Dr. Halsted. It was it was his hero. So, it was something he liked and talked about a lot and we spent a fair amount of time after that going through and getting thrown out of the cemetery. It's called the Greenwood Cemetery.

Stewart [00:02:03] In Brooklyn?

Jaffe [00:02:04] In Brooklyn. Yeah. It's actually on a hill in Brooklyn and if you look from the top of the Hill he's on a knoll. And if you look from that knoll you could see the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge. It's a beautiful spot beautiful beautiful spot. And the two people who were buried closest to him are Daniel Chester French, who's probably the most important sculptor in the history of the United States. He did the sculpture of Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial and lots of other ones in his gravesite is a sculpture of a young

boy, very beautiful. But, he's right next door. The other person who's next door is Ives the the artist of Currier and Iverson. So, the three of them are within 20... within a circle 20 feet in diameter. The rest of the Halsted family is buried there too, many others. His is the only stone, interestingly enough that is horizontal the rest of the stones are all vertical, but his is clearly horizontal. It's the only one. And it's sort of in the middle of the circle of the of the people who are buried there of his family. It was his family burial site.

Stewart [00:03:33] Right. And that meant a lot. Dr. Sabiston, as you said.

Jaffe [00:03:36] Yes, of course he was... He was his role model. I mean, everyone... First of all he was considered by everybody the sort of the father of modern surgery programs and modern residencies he was... He's always been the sort of the god of surgery. And particularly since he was at Hopkins, and Dr. Sabiston was very much Hopkins fan because of his time there, particularly since he was at Hopkins it was something that was very very important to him.