

JON CHILINGERIAN

Jon Arsen Chilingerian...

- Loving husband and father
- Inspirational professor
- Leadership expert
- Serial entrepreneur
- Healthcare researcher
- Charismatic
- Kind

Jon had many touchpoints at The Heller School and beyond at Brandeis University. He was deeply involved in the training of PhD students and other graduate students across a broad range of programs. He was a prolific researcher in the healthcare area and was an international expert on leadership.

Jon Chilingerian moved mountains in his young 72 years. Professionally, one of the things he cared most deeply about was changing the way physicians think. Jon took extraordinary steps to ensure that he had a hand in this great feat.

He was convinced that if he could train the domain experts in healthcare, the physicians, in management science, they would become change agents in transforming health systems, ultimately improving patient outcomes.

Jon Chilingerian executed. He got the job done and was only just getting started.

Through critical partnerships he developed with organizations like the American College of Surgeons, the Thoracic Surgery Foundation, state medical societies, the Maine Hanley Leadership Center and the European Health Leader's Program, Jon designed innovative and inspirational executive leadership programs for physicians and led faculty in training over 2000 physicians and surgeons. Jon also led faculty in training over 500 MD/MBAs and via the Physicians EMBA program he started in 2016, he trained over 200 additional physician leaders. That is impact and that was Jon Chilingerian.

As one of his EMBA students wrote:

“He not only taught me how to be an effective, empathetic clinical leader but he made me a better person.”

Jon earned his PhD from the Sloane School of Management at MIT and prior to that served as the Assistant Health Commissioner for the City of Boston. He came to The Heller School in 1987 at the urging of his mentor and later close friend and colleague, Stuart Altman. At Heller, Jon began a new journey.

In the early 1990s, he founded the Heller MBA program with its focus on Social Impact, always working toward making a difference. In 1995, he partnered with the Tufts School of Medicine and founded the MD/MBA program. Finally, continuing his quest to change how physicians think, in 2016, he founded the Heller Executive MBA for Physicians program.

Jon authored numerous books, scholarly papers and cases. He published in journals that include *Annals of Operational Research*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Health Care Management Review*, *Health Services Management Research*, and *The Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*. His most recent book was published just three months after his passing, *The New Science of Medicine and Management*.

Jon pioneered using Data Envelopment Analysis in healthcare, advancing quality, productivity, and technical change in orthopedic, cardiac, and breast cancer surgeries. Jon brought Heller the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) predoctoral fellowships. This work has had a great impact on the direction of health services and policy research nationally and internationally and supports many PhD students.

Researcher, coach, mentor, teacher, collaborator, thought leader, colleague, friend, father, husband...Jon embraced all of these roles with great commitment and passion. He cared deeply about relationships and knew that strong relationships were built over time with much nurturing along the way. Jon was the quintessential relationship builder.

In the words of Maya Angelou,

“...people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Jon Chilingirian's passion was absolutely palpable; he made students feel empowered, inspired and loved.

Jon is survived by his wife, Dianne, and his two wonderful children, Christine (Brandeis class of 2007) and John (Brandeis class of 2010 and Heller MBA '16). He always spoke so lovingly about these most important people in his life.

Jon Arsen Chilingirian, we deeply miss your FANTASTICO spirit!