

MGA Executive Director Reunites with Childhood Neurologist Allison Foss

In early October, Allison Foss, Executive Director of the MGA was reunited with her childhood neurologist at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Allison writes, "Today's experience was nothing short of amazing. My parents and I met my Pediatric Neurologist who diagnosed me with MG 34 years ago in Iowa City. It has been over 20 years since we had seen him. Our journey to meet up with Dr. Afifi began last spring after a quick conversation with the neuro docs at KU about who had diagnosed me. As it turns out, Dr. Mazen Dimachkie at KU was a student of Dr. Afifi in Beirut in the early 80s. Dr. Dimachkie obtained contact info for Dr. Afifi and we planned a date to go for a visit. As he greeted us at the door of his home, I recognized the sound of him fiddling the coins in his pocket. I was flooded with memories. As a child, I always remember him playing with the coins in his pocket as he conversed after he'd conducted an exam. One of the coolest treasures he shared was microfilms of me as a child that he used to teach his students about myasthenia gravis. So fun putting each slide into the viewfinder to see what it looked like. Such a neat opportunity to reconnect and hear about his life and the impact he has made in the field of Neurology.

He shared he has a few more things he wants to accomplish, one including writing a book about how families in Palestine had to leave their homes in the 1940s and second a memoir of his life. I left this afternoon with a full ♥. So grateful for this opportunity and reminded of how important relationships are in our lives."

Do you have a doctor that has impacted you? Changed your life?

