

DOTSY

Jason Miles, Class of 2016

Running on the beach,
many kids within her reach.
“Don’t throw sand!” she would say,
but we would do it anyway.
The wooden spoon, striking fear.
“No more ice cream!” we would hear.
Racing big wheels down the drive,
with mostly luck, we did survive.
Start the race with a push,
someone’s stuck in the bush.
Scraped up elbows, knees and toes.
Brush it off, away we’d go.
Running fast, wild and young,
Zachy fell and split his tongue.
Cousins come from out of town—
hugs and laughs all around.
Over first, dunes below,
then out to surf, we would go.
Paddle out to the sea
to catch a wave, you and me.
In the puddles, we would play.
On the sand, our parents lay.
All the while, she was there,
watching with such loving care.
All of this and so much more,
these memories, I do adore.
So very much, she meant to me
and to all our family.
Older now, we all shall get
but our time with you, we won’t forget.

Jason Miles is a fourth year medical student pursuing a career in ophthalmology.

JUNUS

Linda Minnock, MD

The icy blue day Junus turned ninety he dressed
in his one blue suit and rode the city bus
to clinic where he took up his same seat
front and center to the nurse’s station.

Fourteen times in as many weeks
with a moving but unnamed pain
in his mouth, his throat or ear.
Our masked faces and cold steel probed
to cries of “Please, doctor, please STOP!”
And stop we did.
But back and back and back he came,
always polite, always “Thank you, Doctor,”
with a nod and handshake each time.

In that long life he had known waiting and pain,
the two often together.
He knew this doctor was his last hope
and the doctor did his level best to help
but finally Junus came back no more.
He no longer sits straight-backed
while waiting his turn to be seen,
yet his dignity and grace remain.

Linda Minnock practiced as a family doctor in Tallahassee for 31 years. After retiring in 2013, she now works part-time at the Clinical Learning Center. She enjoys kayaking and hiking.