

Honorable Senate President, Novelle Francis, Honorable Senator Marise James who sponsored Bill 35-0102, Honorable other Senators of the VI 35th Legislature, de Chabert family, fellow distinguished testifiers, and other Virgin Islanders, it is our pleasure to be at this legislative recognition of Dr. Ralph A de Chabert.

I am Dr. Angelo Galiber, a radiologist from Christiansted, St. Croix. Virgin Islands Medical Society authorized Dr. Cora Christian and I to write the proposed resolution. It records Dr. de Chabert's accomplishments and the contributions of his family.

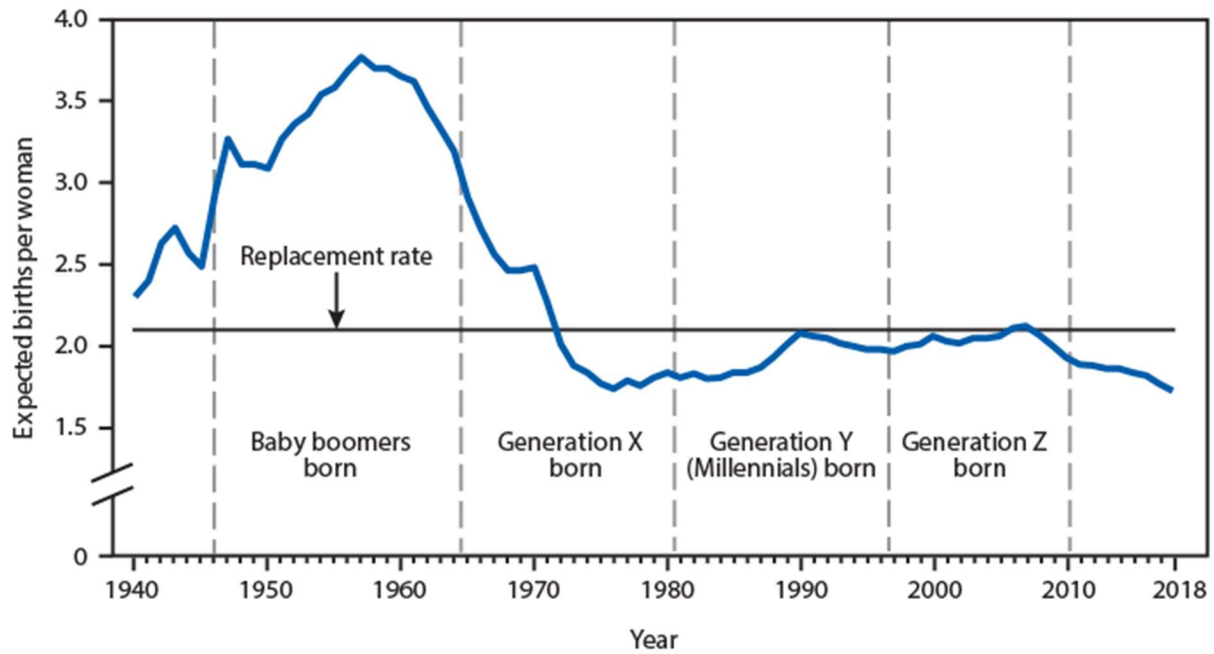
Many people interacted with Ralph A de Chabert - the doctor, businessperson, farmer, horse racing enthusiast, family man, and/or patient. His tenderheartednesses at each encounter motivated us. His advice was calm, brief, and effective. He typically did what he said he would do. He mentored many people, and he strongly recruited some of us. Although we "stand on the shoulders of giants" like - Lincoln, Faraday, Madame Curie, King, Jobs, and Gates, Dr. de Chabert nurtured our shoulders to be giant! The United States of America knows more about its eastern most possession because of what he did here. De Chabert transactions in Crucian Queen and Company Quarter estates generated opportunities for thousands of Virgin Islanders - who grew up here and who came here to live. The de Chabert family and favorable U.S. legislation enabled our economy to harness the octane of what was once the world's largest oil refinery!

If you know Dr. de Chabert well, you know he dislikes flying. He always wanted to be well-grounded to St. Croix. He was on duty each time a descendant of climate change battered our hospital. His VI contributions and our collective efforts will build a new hospital to serve visitors and Crucians for the next 50 years.

During the last 50 years, birth rate in the United States\* and many countries dropped below the rates they need to replace their populations. Some reasons for this are that many: women have limited access to affordable health care, women put off childbearing to get a higher education, people find child-rearing to be too expensive, children lack after-school programs, and women cannot work-from-home when their children or parents are sick. As a result, no post-1965 generation of Americans is large enough to sustain retirement expectations. Just ask yourself, "Why should I have to work when I am retired?". These situations will compel us to depend more on obstetrics, gynecology, and reforms that support all families.

Dr. de Chabert induced tremendous Virgin Islands family growth. We are beneficiaries of his generosity, inclusiveness, and hard work. In recognition of his accomplishments, our elected officials should put his name on the Governor Juan Luis Hospital OB-GYN Unit.

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The USA Total Fertility Rate (TFR) = the expected number of births a woman would have over her lifetime. “Except for 2006 and 2007, the TFR has been below the level needed for a generation to replace itself (2.10 births per woman) since 1971. 2018 TFR = 1.73.”, says the CDC

[QuickStats: Expected Number of Births over a Woman’s Lifetime — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 1940–2018 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/quickstats/expected-number-of-births-over-a-woman-s-lifetime)