

JOHN MARSHALL KNOX, M.D. (1925–1987)

American medicine lost an outstanding teacher, researcher, and physician when Dr. John Marshall Knox died on Saturday, February 28, 1987, while attending the 1987 meeting of the American Dermatological Association in Maui, Hawaii. Dr. Knox was posthumously elected president of that association.

Dr. Knox was born in Dallas, Texas, on April 11, 1925. He received his bachelor of science degree from Texas A & M University and subsequently maintained an interest in the affairs of his undergraduate university. In 1971 he was the youngest graduate ever to receive Texas A & M's Distinguished Alumni Award. In 1977 he was President of the Association of Former Students of Texas A & M. Dr. Knox received his Medical Degree from Baylor College of Medicine, where he was also a member of Alpha Omega Alpha. After an internship at Charity Hospital of New Orleans, he did his residency training in dermatology at the University of Michigan and at the University of Oklahoma. From 1951 to 1952 he served as a Captain in the United States Air Force, Medical Corp, and was Chief of the dermatology section at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi. He was certified by the American Board of Dermatology, Inc., in 1955, and he received the Certificate of Special Competence in Dermatopathology in 1974. In 1956 Dr. Knox joined the faculty at Baylor College of Medicine, where he was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology from 1963 until 1981. During his tenure as Professor and Chairman, Dr. Knox established an approved residency training program and built an outstanding department widely recognized as one of the leading academic centers for dermatology and venereology in the United States. Dr. Knox was a recognized expert in dermatopathology and held a joint appointment as professor in the Department of Pathology at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Knox trained over 60 residents in dermatology and is remembered fondly by them as an excellent clinician and dermatopathologist. Dr. Knox authored or coauthored over 330 scientific papers and served on the editorial board of three medical journals, including *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*.

In 1981 Dr. Knox entered private practice and became Clinical Professor of Dermatology at Baylor College of Medicine, at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. He continued to teach weekly pathology conferences, and on each

Thursday morning he ran the joint University of Texas–Baylor College of Medicine Diagnostic Conference. In 1985 his son, John Marshall Knox, joined him in the private practice of dermatology.

Dr. Knox was interested in and did research in the sexually transmitted diseases. He was a member of the American Venereal Disease Association, American Social Health Association, International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses, and the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases. He served as President of the American Venereal Disease Association in 1968–1969, on the Board of Directors of the American Social Health Association from 1962 to 1975, as Counselor-Executive Committee-International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses from 1973 to 1980, and as Regional Director and Assistant Secretary General-North America of the International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses from 1978 to 1980. He was a member of the National Commission on Venereal Diseases from 1971 to 1972 and Director, Venereal Disease Control, City of Houston, from 1957 to 1968.

Dr. Knox was a recognized leader in dermatology and was President (1985), Vice-President (1984) and a Director of the American Board of Dermatology. He was Chairman (1984), Vice Chairman (1983), and a member of the Joint Committee on Special Competence in Dermatopathology, Chairman of the Council and Director (1969–1972) of the National Program for Dermatology, the AMA Council's Representative to the Residency Review Committee for Dermatology (1974–1976), a member of the Commission for Cutaneous Diseases, Armed Forces Epidemiology Board (1968–1972), and a Member of the Joint Commission on Continuing Competence in Dermatology. He served on the Advisory Board of the Skin Cancer Foundation, on the Board of Trustees of the Dermatology Foundation, on the Board of Directors of the Society for Investigative Dermatology, Inc. He was President of the Houston Dermatological Society, President and Vice-President of the Texas Dermatological Society, President-elect of the American Dermatological Association, President of the South Central Dermatological Congress, and Chairman, Section of Dermatology, Southern Medical Association.

Dr. Knox is survived by his lovely wife Lullene, his son, John Marshall Knox, who will carry on with his dermatological practice in Houston, and his daughters, Mrs. Lynda Brosseau of Fort Worth, Texas, and Mrs. Jane Funkhouser of Houston, Texas.

Dr. Knox was a superb clinician, a dedicated teacher, and an able administrator. He was wise, fair, and honest. He was a clear thinker and was able to get to the heart of an issue quickly. His concern for the welfare of dermatology, venereology, and medicine in general often led him to speak out on controversial issues. His common-sense approach was admired and appreciated, and his views often prevailed. Dr. Knox loved his family, medi-

cine, those he trained, and his many friends. In return he was loved by the many people who were privileged to know him. With the death of Dr. Knox many have lost a close personal friend, and American medicine has lost a leader. He will be greatly missed.

ANDREW H. RUDOLPH, M.D.
Houston, Texas

NOTICE

Australian and New Zealand Conference on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 25-27 August, 1988. Venue: University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. For further information contact:

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