



Roscoe Andrew Gutekunst

FEB 25, 1916 - FEB 6, 2008



Scan to Visit



Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 4



Roscoe Andrew Gutekunst

FEB 25, 1916 - FEB 6, 2008

GUTEKUNST, ROSCOE ANDREW, Born on February 25, 1916 in Drayton, North Dakota and passed away on February 6, 2008 in Plano, Texas. He received both his Bachelors of Science (1945) and his Doctor of Medicine (1946) from the University of Minnesota. He began his medical internship in October, 1946 with the U.S. Naval Hospital in Great Lakes, Illinois. After serving in the U.S. Navy Medical Corp he settled in Phoenix and specialized in thoracic surgery and pulmonary diseases. He volunteered to reenter the Navy soon after the outbreak of the Korean War. He specified that he wanted to be assigned to the Marines to administer aid to the frontline wounded. Lieutenant Gutekunst became battalion surgeon and was attached to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat 'V' for Valor. After his military service he returned to Phoenix to resume his medical practice. He later fulfilled a life-long yearning to become a General Practitioner. Settling in Texas he continued his membership in the American Medical Association and is a member of the 50 year club. He is also a charter member of The Academy of Family Practice. He and his wife of 53 years, Cynthia Bargloff, settled in Dallas in July 1961, where he continued to practice until November 1995. He was a member of St. Johns Episcopal Church, Dallas, and former choir member. An avid reader, he loved to garden, travel with his R.V., and play his harmonica. He was devoted to the care of his patients and missed caring for them. Survivors include his wife, Cynthia; 3 nieces, Kay, Kakii, and Carin; 2 cousins, Jerrie and Janet; and many beloved friends, including Bill W. A funeral mass will be at 1PM Friday February 15, 2008 at St. John's Episcopal Church, 848 Harter Rd. Dallas, TX 75218; Father David Houk officiating. Interment at Bishop Mason Mausoleum in Flower Mound, Texas, will follow immediately. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to contribute to St. John's Episcopal Church or to your favorite charity.



Brian Shaffer posted:

Growing up in Dallas, Dr. Gutekunst was our family doctor and I was something of a frequent patient to the practice. While delivering newspapers on Sunday morning, I fell out of the open door of our Ford Galaxy 500 driven by my mother and ended up in a position where she ran over both of my feet, damaging one such that I could not walk. Later in the day, I was taken to Doctor's Hospital. A very concerned bone doctor (Dr. Goldstein or Goldberg?) noticed the extensive bruising on both of my legs and had orderlies take my mother to the next room so that he could question me about the bruising. He obviously felt that the story of mom running over my feet with the car was hokey especially given my bruises. He was concerned that I was being abused. I played as a defensive fullback in soccer and the majority of the bruises were soccer injuries. I was small for my age and tended to get beat up more when colliding with attacking forwards of the opposing teams. It was long about the second time he had me explaining how each individual bruise occurred (apparently trying to determine if my explanations were consistent or maybe just made up to cover for being abused) that Dr. Gutekunst came into the ER. I am not sure how he came to be there, but he was searching for us and came in and asked the bone doctor what he had. The bone doctor explained that I claimed that my mother had run over me with her car. Dr. Gutekunst listened thoughtfully, nodding his head as he did so, then asked which foot was injured. And in his comedic straightman and deadpan way, said something along the lines of, "Right. That's just Brian Shaffer. I will tell you what. You carry him out to the parking lot and hold him down while I get my truck. I will run over his other leg and that should keep him out of trouble for a while." He said it all very seriously and with a straight face and there was a delay of several seconds before the bone doctor really understood that Dr. Gutekunst was joking. Mom was allowed to rejoin us and Dr. Gutekunst smiled as he said something to mom...for which she was VERY relieved. That was some 36 years ago. To this day, I have never had a better doctor who seemed to actually be interested in his patients. I will never forget his office with the Mickey Mouse phone and all sorts of gizmos and toys. On one of the last times that I saw him while home from college, I ended up waiting in his office for him and took the time to read some of the things he had on his walls. I remember being very impressed with a particular yellowed letter framed in what I recall as being a subdued inexpensive frame, like it was nothing terribly special. The was the letter from Congress explaining his actions and reasons for being given the Bronze Star during the Korean War. Assuming I recall it correctly, he went behind enemy lines to recover downed American soldiers after their position had been overrun along with litter bearers. I never had a clue that he was a hero. He was just my doctor, one that I liked and trusted. I never would have had a clue about his military past had I not had to wait for him that day. I was very impressed.

February 5 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Roscoe by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit

