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Founders Day Assembly

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE JANUARY 24, 1986 11 A.M. ROWLAND HALL

Founders Day Assembly

The annual observance of Founders Day bonors a man who "put the cause of osteopathic medicine above personal considerations." That man was Oscar John Snyder, M.S., D.O., co-founder of the college and PCOM's first president. Even after Dr. Snyder resigned the presidency in favor of a new administration, he remained with PCOM for 42 years as adviser and member of the board of trustees. He brought about the establishment of high standards of osteopathic education which was instrumental in obtaining the Commonwealth's legal recognition of the college and the osteopathic profession.

Program

Introductions
Joseph A. Dieterle, D.O.
Dean

Invocation
Robert J. Fanning, Jr.
President, Student Council

The Pledge of Allegiance Louis F. Amalfitano, D.O. President, Alumni Association

Welcome, Board of Trustees
The Honorable J. Sydney Hoffman
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Introduction of the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal Recipient J. Peter Tilley, D.O. President

Address
David Heilig, D.O., M.Sc. (Ost.) F.A.A.O.
Class of 1944

Benediction
Mark C. Ebersole, Ph.D.

The O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal will be presented to Dr. Heilig at the Founders Day/Alumni Dinner Dance on January 25, 1986

David Heilig, D.O. B.A., M.Sc. (Ost.), F.A.A.O. Class of 1944

The young man who was graduated in 1935 from Swarthmore College "with Honors in the Humanities," sent an important signal to the future. During his long and distinguished medical and teaching career at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. David Heilig has delivered repeatedly on his undergraduate promise as an honored osteopathic physician, educator, department head and laureate. And he has done it with style.

His decision to continue his studies during the war years sprang from his lifelong commitment to relieve, not inflict, pain. He followed graduation with an eight-year preceptorship and partnership in Philadelphia, practicing family medicine. Two early years were spent in anatomy, preparing him more firmly for the next six years as clinical assistant in osteopathic principles and practice, and forward into ever-widening responsibilities of instruction administration and medical practice.

As a measure of his leadership at PCOM, Dr. Heilig has provided 40 classes of medical students with active participation in the essence of osteopathic principles, fundamental to his belief in the "whole person" approach to wellness. From instructor to professor to department chairman and chairman of the committee on utilization of osteopathic principles and methods, he has brought excellence and humanity into the lecture hall and clinical laboratory.

Dr. Heilig has been published extensively during his faculty years at PCOM, and the college has benefited from his research and effort, both devoted to the advancement of osteopathic principles in the treatment and prevention of injury and disease.

Honored repeatedly for his scholarship, medical excellence and contributions to osteopathic education, Dr. Heilig has won professional recognition and collegial respect. He holds the A.T. Still Medallion of Honor from the American Academy of Osteopathy, of which he is both a Fellow and Past-President. In 1977 he was awarded the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, and in 1984 became chairman of the Board of Fellowship, largely responsible for establishing a certifying board in osteopathic manipulative medicine. Last year, Dr. Heilig won the George W. Northup Award in recognition of exceptional service to the osteopathic student and profession, in competition with osteopathic educators from throughout the United States, sponsored by the Student Osteopathic Medical Association.

Dr. Heilig's community activities include membership in the Lansdowne Friends Meeting, a substantial commitment to the Rotary Club of Upper Darby as past president and member of the Rotary's Gundaker Fund; medical inspector and examining physician of Upper Darby schools from 1952-1974, team physician of Upper Darby High School from 1960-1974, member of the advisory board of the Community Nursing Association, member of the board of Children's Country Week Association, and camp physician for its summer underprivileged children's activities at Paradise Farms, from 1961-1978.

He and his wife, the former Margaret Cramer, were married in 1942. Margot Heilig holds an R.N. and associate degree in nursing, a B.A. from Wilson College, and an M.S.W. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Until two years ago, she had been a college nurse at Delaware County Community College. The couple has three daughters: Judith Johnson, Bethesda, Md., counsellor and free-lance artist; Bonnie Mueller, Hamden, Ct., mental health supervisor and counsellor; and Barbara Leone, Boulder, Co., a psychiatric nurse. The Heiligs' four grandchildren range in age from 15 years to 15 months.

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine