# OKLAHOMA D.O.

Summer 2024 Vol. 87, NO. 1

THE JOURNAL OF THE OKLAHOMA OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION



Jonathan B. Stone, DO, MPH, FAAPMR Oklahoma Osteopathic Association President 2024-2025



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# OKLAHOMA



6 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL ADDRESS Jonathan Stone, DO, begins his term as OOA President with his address to the membership. Read Dr. Stones' vision for leading the OOA in the coming year.



8 124TH ANNUAL CONVENTION RECAP & HONOREES
A look back at the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association's successful 124th Annual Convention "Mind, Body, and Spirit" held April 18-21, 2024.



25 VIRTUAL SUMMER CME
Register now for the OOA's Virtual Summer
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Catherine Bruce editor-in-chief

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## Inaugural Address

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Jonathan B. Stone, DO, MPH, FAAPMR

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great honor and humility that I stand before you today as the newly elected president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association. I chose "mind, body, spirit" as this year's theme. As we embark on this journey together, I am deeply committed to advocating for a healthcare system that prioritizes the holistic well-being of every individual, recognizing the interconnectedness of mind, body, and spirit.

To begin, though, I'd like to acknowledge some people in my life who have made it possible for me to be here in this position today. Family is very important to me, and I am so thankful to have my wife, Andrea, here. Andrea, I'm so blessed to be on life's journey with you! I'm incredibly happy to have my sons, Greg, Henry and Grayson here along with other family-my parents, Jack and Jeanette, my siblings-Jennifer, Jacey and Jake—and my mother-in-law, Sherry and sister-inlaw Shelley. Your love and support over the years has meant a lot to me. To Dr. Ross Pope, OMM guru, who sparked my interest in osteopathic medicine—thank you for your mentorship and friendship over the years; to Lynette McLain, former OOA executive director, thank you for supporting me as a medical student when fellow student, Cara Hoffart, and I wanted to start a student political action committee at OSU-COM; to Dr. Sheila Newcomb, who definitely got the short straw when we were assigned as anatomy lab partners but who became a really great friend; and to Dr. LeRoy Young who has supported and encouraged my involvement with the OOA, thank you for your mentorship and friendship over the years, especially when I was starting my solo private practice.

I'd also like to recognize some medical student guests from OSU. These are students from the OSU-CHS PM&R Club. I was at the AOCPMR Midyear meeting a couple of weekends ago in Minneapolis, and I was happily surprised to learn that their club was recognized as the AOCPMR national student chapter of the year! What a tremendous honor! For those who may not know, AOCPMR is the college for my specialty, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. While I haven't had anything to do with the PM&R club at OSU, I have had the pleasure of having a couple of the students in my clinic on rotations. I am thrilled that the OOA has partnered with the OEFOM this year for the Charity Ball. Talk about "Leaders of Tomorrow"—these students are truly upcoming leaders in osteopathic medicine, and I'm excited that they are interested to do so in my specialty— Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation!

I'd also like to thank Dr. Mark and Azure Keuchel for chairing the inaugural OEMFOM Charity Ball and the OOA staff for all their hard work and efforts to make the convention, this evening and everything the OOA does over the course of the year possible. Jacob, Chrissa, Catherine and Audrey—thank you!

In today's fast-paced world, it's easy to overlook the importance of nurturing all aspects of our health. We

often focus solely on treating symptoms rather than addressing the root causes of illness. As osteopathic physicians, we have a unique perspective that emphasizes the body's ability to heal itself when given the proper support and attention. This approach not only treats the symptoms but also seeks to understand and address the underlying imbalances that contribute to illness. At the heart of osteopathic medicine is the belief that true healing occurs when we treat the whole person – mind, body, and spirit.

Our mind influences our physical health in profound ways, and our spiritual well-being can have an immense impact on our overall health and vitality. By addressing all aspects of our being, we can achieve optimal health and wellness.

As president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, I am committed to promoting physician-led healthcare that prioritizes the patient's well-being above all else. In a world where profit often takes precedence over patient care, it is essential that we, as physicians, maintain our autonomy and advocate for the best interests of our patients. We must resist the

pressures of corporate interests and insurance companies and remain steadfast in our commitment to providing compassionate, patient-centered care.

Furthermore, I believe that collaboration and innovation are essential for advancing healthcare in our state. By working together with other healthcare professionals, policymakers, and community leaders, we can develop innovative solutions to address the complex challenges facing healthcare. Together, we can create a healthcare system that is truly patient-centered, where every individual has access to high-quality care that addresses their unique needs.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to the field of osteopathic medicine. Together, we have the power to transform healthcare in Oklahoma. Let us continue to lead with compassion, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to the well-being of all those we serve.

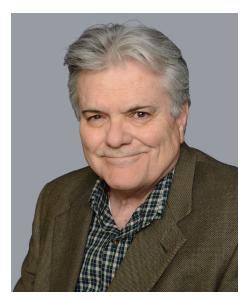
Thank you.



The Stone Family

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## DOCTOR OF THE YEAR



The Doctor of the Year Award, presented by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, stands as the most esteemed accolade within the organization. In 2024, this prestigious title was bestowed upon a distinguished psychiatrist whose unwavering commitment to the field spans numerous decades. His profound dedication to patient care serves as a genuine inspiration to his peers and the community. Notably, his unconventional approach to medicine and innovative contributions have left an indelible mark, setting him apart as a truly remarkable recipient of this esteemed award, Vincel Ray Cordry, DO.

Dr. Cordry's journey began with a clear vision: to become an osteopathic doctor. After inspiring young minds as a science teacher, he went on to earn his medical degree and complete his residency. But his pursuit of knowledge didn't stop there. He delved into child and adult psychiatry, a testament to his well-rounded approach to mental health.

The impact is undeniable. He opened the first in-patient child psychiatric unit in Oklahoma, a groundbreaking achievement that serves countless children to this day. His advocacy for mental healthcare, particularly in underserved areas, continues to make a difference in countless lives.

Beyond his medical expertise, Dr. Cordry is a champion of our profession. His unwavering support for the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, both financially and through all his volunteer work, is a true mark of character.

He exemplifies the very best of our field: a skilled practitioner, a passionate advocate, and a dedicated leader. But perhaps most importantly, he is a family man who exemplifies the importance of balance and compassion.

Congratulations Dr. Cordry!

# Vincel Ray Cordry, DO















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# OUTSTANDING & DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



How do you describe the Sistine Chapel to the blind, or Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata to the deaf in only a few words?

Mercedez Bernard, DO, received her undergraduate education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and studied medicine at Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. As fate would have it, she found herself back in southwest Oklahoma to complete her residency in family medicine at Comanche County Memorial Hospital. They liked her so much they offered her the job of assistant program director of the family medicine program upon graduation, and not long after she found herself running the show as the program director. She is the definition of altruistic. She loves her residency family as if they were her own. She hails from the sleepy, southwest Oklahoma town of Granite where she was raised by Robert, an actual

war hero, and Alicia.

Despite her multiple professional obligations, she never fails to be the best mother to her monster truck-obsessed son, Luca, and best wife to her trophy husband, Justin Magalassi, DO.

She is the GOAT.









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### A.T. STILL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Dennis E. Blankenship, DO, began his journey with a dedication to learning at Northeastern State University and culminated in earning his Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Following his education, he completed his residency in emergency medicine at Integris Southwest Medical Center in Oklahoma City. Since joining the faculty at the OSU Center for Health Sciences in 2006, Dr. Blankenship has exemplified excellence as an educator and mentor. His leadership was recognized when he was appointed Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine in 2016. Throughout his career, he has been honored with prestigious awards, including the Faculty Distinguished Service Award in 2018 and recognition as the 2011 Tulsa Business Journal's Health Care Champion.

In 2019, Dr. Blankenship's leadership expanded as he assumed the role of Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. His commitment to innovation in medical education and healthcare delivery has been unwavering.

Today, we honor Dr. Blankenship as the Dean of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. His dedication to serving rural and underserved communities in Oklahoma has made a lasting impact on patient care.

### ROOKIE PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR



Lindsey French-Hoffman, DO, is a rising star, dedicated to bringing quality healthcare where it's needed most.

Growing up in Kingston, Oklahoma, Dr. French-Hoffman saw the struggle to access healthcare. Inspired by her mom at the local hospital, she knew she wanted to serve her community. After excelling in medical school, Dr. French-Hoffman could have gone anywhere. But her heart was in Kingston. She returned to train in their program and became a leader. Dr. French-Hoffman didn't wait. She revived a closed clinic in Kingston, one of the only ones in town, ensuring her neighbors had access to care. Dr. French-Hoffman's impact extends beyond her clinic. She's the Chief of Staff at Madill Hospital, bringing specialists closer to patients.

Dr. French-Hoffman believes in the next generation. She mentors students and residents, sharing her knowledge of rural medicine. She's also the assistant medical director for the EMS and medical director for a home health agency. Plus, she volunteers her time to help Special Olympic athletes.

Dr. French-Hoffman is more than just a "Rookie." She's a leader with a vision for rural healthcare and might I say doing a fantastic job!

### **AWARDS OF APPRECIATION**



Sharon Smith significantly contributed to the advancement of osteopathic medicine at Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma, as the Graduate Medical Education Administrator, overseeing both the Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine residency programs at Comanche County Memorial Hospital.

Ms. Smith's influence, however, extends far beyond the resident physician level. Ms. Smith's exceptional leadership and expertise have been instrumental in achieving initial accreditation with the AOA, followed by the coveted continued accreditation and continued osteopathic recognition from ACGME. She serves as a dedicated advocate for all osteopathic physicians who rotate

through our hospital, particularly students from Oklahoma State University. Ms. Smith's commitment to cultivating a supportive learning environment ensures a truly exceptional experience for all, regardless of their professional standing.

Throughout her tenure, Ms. Smith's impact has been truly remarkable. Countless osteopathic physicians, both established and aspiring, have benefited from her unwavering support, extensive knowledge, and commitment to their success. She has fostered a culture of excellence within our residency programs, ensuring a pipeline of highly skilled and dedicated osteopathic physicians who will serve our community well into the future.

Her exceptional leadership and enduring commitment to Graduate Medical Education has profoundly impacted Comanche County Memorial Hospital and the surrounding community.

## Congratulations to our 2024 Life Members!

Afsar M. Emery, DO, MPH Tulsa, OK

Gary D. Fine, DO Fort Smith, AR

George M. Cole, DO Dallas, TX

Kevin B. Lane, DO Oklahoma City, OK

R. Gregory Martens, DO Madill, OK

Thomas V. Nunn, DO Oklahoma City, OK

Trung H. Pham, DO Tulsa, OK Kevin M. Riccitelli, DO Norman, OK

Robert E. Sanders, DO Fort Smith, AR

Steven P. Sanders, DO Lawton, DO

Thomas A. Schooley, DO Tulsa, OK







## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Nicholas Simon Jr., OMS-III \$2,000



Caroline Quijada, OMS-II \$2,000



Haley Howard, OMS-III \$2,000



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## A look back at the 124th Annual Convention "Mind, Body, Spirit"











































































































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# Thank You

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OEFOM CHARITY BALL



Jonathan B. Stone, DO

Carolyn J. Pimsler, DO

Mark H. Keuchel, DO

Jim Melton, DO, with Cardio Vascular Health Clinic

## Thank you to our 124th Annual Convention Exhibitors!































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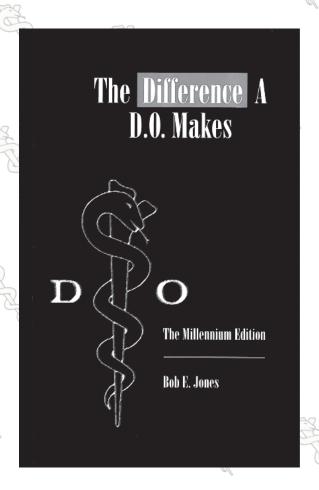








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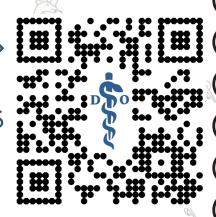
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### What is FOOA?

The Friends of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association is a membership association for the spouses, relatives, and loved ones of OOA Physician, Resident, and Medical Student members. The Mission of FOOA is to promote awareness of and support the Osteopathic Profession within Oklahoma through collaboration, education, and community.

Newly formed in 2021, FOOA strives to offer a home for the loved ones of OOA members. FOOA members coordinate community events, participate in OOA activities, and share resources and support within the organization. Use the QR code to learn more about FOOA and explore what this organization has to offer.

### **BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**

FOOA regular member dues are \$50 annually (November 1 – October 31). Membership for the spouses of medical students and residents is FREE. To join, simply return this form with the enclosed OOA dues renewal (you may write one check for both OOA & FOOA dues if you'd prefer).

FOOA Member Name			(\$50 for each FOOA membership Spouses of Medical Students & Residents is FREE)		
Email:					Φ.
☐ OOA Member Spous					\$
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# MENTOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS!

You can be an incredible source of information and encouragement for the next generation of osteopathic physicians by mentoring a first-year OSU-COM student.

The OOA's Mentor/Mentee program pairs residents, practicing, and retired physicians with these new medical students to help guide them through this journey's ups and downs.

While the time commitment asked of you is not significant, your knowledge and wisdom can make a significant impact on these students as they navigate medical school.

If you'd like to participate, contact Catherine Bruce at catherine@okosteo.org











#### Digital

#### Homepage Ad

Display your company's logo or targeted message on the OOA's homepage, which has an average of 660 unique page views each month.

#### **Social Media Post**

Reach the OOA's 1,400+ Facebook fans, 1,800 Twitter followers and 300 Instagram followers with your company's message. Your content is subject to approval by the OOA and is limited to once per quarter per company.

#### **OOA Report Blurb**

The OOA Report is a weekly email statement sent to nearly 2,100 physicians, residents and medical students mainly in Oklahoma but also including a handful of out-of-state members representing 17 states around the country. Average open rate is 30%. Highest open rates occur in January, April and October.

#### **CME App Tab**

Reach attendees at any of our two continuing medical education seminars with a sponsored tab in our app. Each CME has its own app which attendees use to access the schedule, speaker information and lecture slides. The tab includes an image of your choice plus a description of your company or product, as well as links to your website and social media. For more information on our CMEs, please look at the descriptions in the *Exhibiting* section.

#### **Publications**

#### Oklahoma D.O. Journal

Electronic journal is distributed through the weekly OOA Report e-newsletter to nearly 2,100 physicians, residents and medical students and shared via the OOA's social media.

Journals will also be posted to the OOA website for members to view. Print journals available upon request.

#### **OOA Annual Directory**

This yearly directory is dispersed to over 1,200 OOA members and used by many on a regular basis to connect with their colleagues. Print directories will be available upon request. Directories will also be posted to the OOA website for members to view.

#### **Convention Program**

Reach nearly 400 physicians with an ad in our annual convention program. Each inperson registrant receives one in their packet and it contains all of the vital information for the conference including the lecture schedule and social events. This program will also be posted to the OOA website for members to view.

#### **Exhibiting**

#### Winter CME

This CME attracts around 300 physicians and other health care professionals who are interested in discovering how your products and services will advance and improve their work. Each exhibitor will have individual booths near the food and beverage area where guests congregate.

#### **Annual Convention**

Held in May at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City, this convention draws between 300-400 physicians across the United States both in-person and virtually. Choose from various booth options which will be set up in the dining and beverage area of the convention providing opportunities to connect with attendees. Convention includes four hours of exclusive, non-competing exhibit hours. Complimentary pre- and post-show attendee mailing list.



For more information contact Catherine Bruce at catherine@okosteo.org



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To watch OOA sponsored lectures on The CME Center, scan the QR Code or visit www.thecmecenter.org/topicarea/ooa-oklahoma



Join Us 2024 Virtual Summer CME 'Transforming Medicine" June 21-23, 2024





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Designated funds are used to support student scholarships annually to enrich the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, located in Tulsa, and the Cherokee Nation, and to maintain the Oklahoma Osteopathic Educational Center.

The Oklahoma Educational Foundation for Osteopathic Medicine was founded in 1967 with the mission of providing support to past, present, and future osteopathic physicians through scholarships and other financial aid. In 1985, the OEFOM Board of Trustees decided to build a safe haven for the osteopathic community located at 4848 N Lincoln Blvd, naming it the Oklahoma Osteopathic Educational Center. Thirty-seven years later, the mission and vision remain the pillars of the OEFOM. However, time has moved on, and the funds have dwindled due to COVID-19 hardship scholarships, building maintenance, multiple student scholarships, stethoscope donations, and other day-to-day necessities.

I am writing to you today to ask for your consideration of a tax-deductible contribution of \$100, \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 or more to the general fund and/or the building maintenance fund. Your contribution, of any amount, to any of the following funds would be greatly appreciated.

	General Fund		☐ Building Maintenance Fund							
	Student Stethoscope Sponsorship		Please use my contribution where it's needed most							
Tax-ded	Tax-deductible gifts can be easily made to OEFOM in the following ways:									
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Thank you in advance for your continuing financial support that will allow the OEFOM to support osteopathic medical students and to maintain the headquarters for both OEFOM and the OOA.

Sincerely,

Jacob Young OEFOM Coordinator

On behalf of the OEFOM Board of Trustees

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# THANKYOU For Your Donations To The OEFOM

#### **OEFOM General Fund**

Jonathan B. Stone, DO John C. Loose, DO Brooks Zimmerman, DO

#### OEFOM Student Stethoscope Sponsorship

Mark A. Keuchel, DO Micheal K. Cooper, DO Nicholas Jean Bentley, DO

#### **OFEOM Scholarship Contribution**

Jonathan B. Stone, DO Michael Stratton, DO William J. Pettit, DO

#### **OEFOM Silent Auction Winner**

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Shanay Herring, DO
Jeanette M. Kelley, DO
Sabrina Schrader, DO
David Park, DO
Ron Cable, DO
Barbara Owens, DO
Christopher Thurman, DO
Jonathan B. Stone, DO
Donna Cannon

#### **OEFOM Charity Ball**

Carolyn Pimsler, DO Jonathan B. Stone, DO Mark A. Keuchel, DO Anita Luetkmeyer Justin Magalassi, DO Jered Davidson, JD



#### GET INVOLVED WITH THE OOA BY JOINING A BUREAU!

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Association has many ways for members to get involved and help guide the future of the association. One of the best ways you can make a difference is by participating in one of our bureaus.

If you are interested in joining one or more of these bureaus, check the boxes that apply and mail this form back to us.

Name: Cell Phone:
Email:
Bureau on Legislation: This bureau keeps members updated on the latest legislative news that will impact your practice and patients. The participants also help guide the OOA's stance on legislative issues.
Bureau on Membership: This bureau is open to any active member of the OOA and focuses on expanding our membership and bringing new benefits to members.
Bureau on Postgraduate Education: This bureau primarily focuses on organizing the annual Research Poster Symposium. The symposium provides students and residents with an opportunity to showcase their research and win prize money.
Bureau on Continuing Medical Education: This bureau focuses on the Winter and Summer CME Seminars to help determine the program and overall purpose of each seminar.

#### Please send completed forms to:

Mail: 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105 Fax: 405-528-6102 Email: catherine@okosteo.org



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### **OOA CALENDAR**

June 6, 2024

Board of Trustees Meeting OOA Office

June 9, 2024

OMT Study Group OOA Office

June 21-23, 2024

2024 Virtual Summer CME Seminar Ashton Clayborn , DO, Chair Zoom

July 14, 2024

OMT Study Group Oklahoma City, OK

July 15-21, 2024

AOA Annual Board of Trustees Meeting Chicago, IL

July 30, 2024

Bureau on Membership 6 pm Zoom

August 1, 2024

Board of Trustees Meeting OOA Office

August 2, 2024

OSU-COM White Coat Ceremony (Tahlequah Campus)

August 3, 2024

OSU-COM White Coat Ceremony (Tulsa Campus)

August 6, 2024

Stethoscope Giveaway (Tulsa & Tahlequah Campus)

September 3, 2024

Bureau on Membership 7 pm Zoom



If you have exciting news to share, we would be happy to hear it! Whether it's hitting a milestone in your career or an impactful story that could be insightful to other physicians, please share it with

us!

Send your great news to Jacob Young at jacob@okosteo.org or Catherine Bruce at catherine@okosteo.org





- Juliana Bizzell, DO R. Randy Hunt, DO Aunna C. Herbst, DO Jenny Qin, DO Kenan L. Kirkendall, DO
- 2 Andrew J. Hamill, DO
- 3 Monica S. Kidwell, DO Richard P. Holsopple, DO Jean-Maria C. Langley, DO
- 4 Lea M. Wolfe, DO George C. Obinero, DO Tony R. Hill, DO John C. Loose, DO John W. Patterson, DO Aliyeah Ayadpor, DO
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- 7 Brent C. Nossaman, DO D. Scott Dycus, DO Jessica R. Childe, DO Michael S. Hull, DO Stephanie A. Meissen, DO L. Todd Olsen, DO Herbert R. Littleton, DO

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### In Memorium



Dr. Eddie Ray Stewart, fondly known as Ed to his friends and loved ones, embarked on his final adventure on May 1, 2024, after a life as vibrant and full of energy as the storms he loved to watch from his porch. Born on January 20, 1949, the youngest of five children, in Ardmore, OK, Ed's journey through life

was marked by love, laughter, and a touch of that Stewart analytical genius.

Ed's early days at Wilson High School set the stage for what would be a lifetime of achievements. It was there where he became an All-State football legend and Salutatorian of the class of 1967. He began his college career at the University of Oklahoma where he was a member of the football team. He then transferred to East Central University to complete his studies, a foreshadowing of his future draft into the NFL. He was drafted to the Cleveland Browns. But Ed was more than just brawn; after hanging up his cleats, he returned to Oklahoma where he taught physical education at Ada High School. Ed had a passion for education. He then continued his studies in medical school at the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. His intellect shone bright, much like his personality, leading him to a cherished career as a family physician. Before he was Dr. Stewart, the healer, he was Ed, the physical education teacher at Ada High School. Here, he taught countless young minds the importance of a healthy lifestyle, all while probably scoring more touchdowns during faculty games than anyone else. Ed's love for football never waned, and you could often find him shouting at the TV during game days, analyzing plays with the precision of a seasoned coach.

Ed's love for sports was only matched by his love for the great outdoors. He was the kind of man who could out-fish any fisherman, with the patience of a saint and a tackle box that seemed more like a magician's hat. There was something about the tranquility of the water that resonated with his soul, a peaceful counterbalance to the roar of a football stadium.

Family was the cornerstone of Ed's life. During his internship at Hillcrest Hospital in Oklahoma City, he met the love of his life, Vicki. They married in 1979 and

they shared a wonderful 41 years of marriage. He was the proud father of Dr. Linzi Stewart-Crawford, who, along with her husband Sean, blessed him with the joy of being a grandfather to Marli LaRue and Vale Ru. His son, Cole, continued the family legacy with Kaden Cole and Maci Rae.

Ed was a fun dad. Whether he was coaching Cole's Tball team or saddling up the ponies for all the children to ride, he was present. He loved spending countless weekends at Cedar Blue fishing and taking all the kids tubing on Lake of the Arbuckles. He also had a love for horses. He loved breeding his own racehorses and watching them run at the racetrack. He made certain that he always provided green pastures for his horses to retire. He loved to teach his children about the races. He would take Linzi & Cole to Tully's Bakery late at night to grab the next day's race program. They would also get to grab a warm glazed donut. He taught them how to study the horses, the breeds, and how to place bets. He would also go cast their bets for them at the window. Ed also thought of the days of the Kentucky Derby, Preakness, and the Belmont Stakes as they were cherished holidays in the Stewart household. He also had the honor of hooding his daughter at her medical school graduation.

Ed has been reunited with many family members in heaven. These include his parents, Ottis and Opal Stewart, Lester & Doyle Stewart (brothers), Vicki Stewart(ex-wife), and Shirley Stewart (sister-in-law) Ed is survived by his daughter, Dr. Linzi Stewart-Crawford, her husband, Sean, and their children, Marli & Vale, Cole (son) and his children, Kaden & Maci, Tommy Joe (brother), Irene Jones (sister) and her husband, Tommy, Marcia Stewart (sister-in-law), & Carol Stewart (sister-in-law). Let's not forget many of some of his greatest cheerleaders and benchwarmers that are numerous nieces and nephews. Many of his nieces and nephews endured good-natured pestering during their younger years.

Ed's infectious laughter and larger-than-life personality made every family gathering an event to remember. He was the loving uncle who would entertain his nieces and nephews with tales of his gridiron glory days, always with a twinkle in his eye and never letting the truth get in the way of a good story.



As a man who could find humor in the mundane, Ed's approach to life was simple: live fully, love deeply, and laugh often. He was known for his quick wit and the ability to dissect a situation with the precision of a physician.

When the skies darkened and the winds picked up, Ed was in his element. Watching storms move in from the comfort of his porch was a pastime that brought him great joy. It was during these moments that one could see the reflection of his personality in the untamed beauty of nature—powerful, awe-inspiring, and always with an underlying warmth.

He leaves behind a legacy of love, intelligence, and an

analytical mind that could solve any problem, whether it was diagnosing an illness or determining if that fish on the line was really "the big one" this time. His departure leaves a void that can never be filled, but his spirit remains an indelible part of the lives he touched.

Dr. Eddie Ray Stewart may have left the field, but his legacy remains as vibrant as a Friday Night Light. So, as we bid farewell to Ed, let's imagine him sitting on that great porch in the sky, watching the mother of all storms roll in, with a fishing rod in one hand and a football in the other, the eternal coach, physician, and lifetime learner all rolled into one. Here's to you, Dr. Eddie Ray; may your laughter continue to echo in our hearts.



William Richard Kennedy was born April 16, 1948 in Houston, TX, to John and Maxine Kennedy and died April 19, 2024. He was 75 years old. The family moved to Tulsa where Bill, his one brother and 5 sisters grew up.

Bill attended St. Peter and Paul Catholic school before attending Seminary in Oklahoma City. He

received his undergraduate degree from OU and working as a juvenile parole officer. He was accepted into the Osteopathic School of Medicine, graduating in 1980 and began his career in pediatric medicine until retiring from OSU Medical Center. Feeling he had more to contribute to the Hispanic community, he opened his own Spanish-speaking medical office and worked there until 2015 when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's

with dementia.

Bill was fascinated with aviation and history, especially World War II. Flying his own plane in-formation patterns with the Tulsa Warbirds was his dream fulfilled. He loved running, bicycling, motorcycling, sailing, scuba diving, working out at the gym, dancing and traveling at every chance. He and his wife, Donna, of 30 years enjoyed and lived life to its fullest.

Bill fought his disease with courage and dignity. It was a long, hard battle and now he is free.

Preceded in death by his parents and sister, Kathleen Kennedy. Survived by his wife, Donna and son, Burke, of Mexico. Siblings: Patrick Kennedy, Mary Rule, Susan Warner, Rosemary Hiskett all of Tulsa, and Ann Dryz of Lawton.

In Memory Of

Honor a deceased physician by making a memorial

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An acknowledgment of your gift is sent to the family.

No amounts are mentioned.

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