

"The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition."

Dr. Charles Drew

Charles Drew's organization and research in the field of blood preservation led to the founding of today's blood banks.

Born in Washington, D.C., in 1904, Drew graduated from Amherst College in Massachusetts where he earned the Messman Trophy for having brought the most honor to the school during his four years there.

After earning his medical degree from McGill University in 1933, Drew taught pathology at Howard University Medical School, becoming such an expert in banked blood that the British government asked him to set up the first blood bank in England.

Drew worked as director of the American Red Cross blood donor project, as chief surgeon at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C., and professor of surgery at Howard.

He died in an automobile accident in North Carolina in 1950.



Planters and LifeSavers Divisions, Winston-Salem, N.C.