



# Intercom

## duke university medical center

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### Tribute to Thomas L. Perkins

## A Devoted Friend of the Medical Center

One of the major supportive forces behind the Duke University Medical Center in its climb to the position it holds in academic medicine today was a man who didn't have an M.D.

Nor was he a graduate of Duke.

In fact, he spent relatively little time here.

Yet his influence on the growth and course of the medical center was summed up this way by Dr. Barnes Woodhall:

"There is no question but that the turning point for the medical center was the long-range planning and development that he insisted on."

The man was Thomas L. Perkins, who died in a hospital near his Rye, N.Y., home on June 21. His direct influence on Duke University and the Duke University Medical Center came from two directions—he had been a member of the University Board of Trustees since 1958, and he had been a trustee of the Duke Endowment since 1948, serving as chairman since 1960.

But some of the factors that influenced Mr. Perkins' fondness for Duke went back to the generation that preceded him.

His father was William R. Perkins, for whom Perkins Library is named and who may have been the person closest to James B. Duke outside his own family.

The elder Perkins was Mr. Duke's personal attorney and legal advisor for the trust indenture which established the Duke Endowment and made possible the establishment of Duke University and the Duke Medical Center. He was a member of the Endowment's Duke University Building Committee.

In his book *The Duke University Medical Center*, the late Dr. W. C. Davison, the first dean of medicine, listed William R. and Thomas L. Perkins among those to receive "the credit for whatever has been accomplished by the faculty and students of the Duke University Medical Center..."

They were among those, Davison wrote, "who started this medical program and were determined that it should be the best, not only 'between Baltimore and New Orleans,' to quote Mr. Duke, but in the nation."

Besides the general interest in Duke he received from his father, who died in 1945, Tom Perkins acquired something else as well—his father's determination that Mr. Duke's wishes be fulfilled.

This point was recalled by Dr. Deryl Hart, who was chairman of the Department of Surgery from 1929-60 and then served for three years as president of the university.

"Tom Perkins was vitally interested in

the university's developing as Mr. Duke wanted it developed, and that included the medical center." As chairman of the Duke Endowment trustees, Mr. Perkins was firm in his resolve of what should be done, he was extremely fair "and looked favorably on our requests from the medical center," Dr. Hart said.

"Someone told me early," Hart recalled, "that when you deal with Tom Perkins, there's no playing around."

But Hart found that when it came to administering the university, Perkins looked to the president.

"He told me on several occasions, 'The president of Duke University runs Duke University,'" Hart said, "and he made it clear that if any requests or recommendations were to be made to the Endowment trustees, they were to come through the president if we expected any action on them."

"He gave you the incentive for initiative and to make proposals, and if they were reasonable proposals, he would support them," Hart said.

In the years that Dr. Hart was president, 1960-63, the second generation of leadership was coming on at the medical center following the retirement in 1960 of Dr. Davison.

Davison's immediate successor as dean



THOMAS L. PERKINS

was Dr. Barnes Woodhall, who said of Perkins that "he was devoted to Duke University and particularly devoted to the medical center. That doesn't mean that everybody agreed with him at all times, but no one could question that the best for Duke was at the center of his interest."

Davison had wanted to enlarge the basic sciences facilities, and Woodhall carried on that drive when he became dean, as did Dr. William G. Anlyan when he succeeded Woodhall in 1964.

Among the results, which Woodhall said Perkins "supported all the way through," are the Nanaline H. Duke and Alex H. Sands medical science buildings on Research Drive.

"But more than supporting this important need, Tom Perkins kept pushing for a long-range plan for the development of the medical center," Woodhall recalled. "He kept right on top of it; he kept asking about it."

What resulted from this insistence and the follow-through by Woodhall, Anlyan and others is a master plan for medical center development that provides for orderly expansion on into the next century.

"Tom Perkins was a very quiet, very calm man who was devoted to the medical center," Woodhall said, "and there is no question but that the turning point for the medical center was the long-range planning and development that he insisted on."

When Woodhall went on to become associate provost and later chancellor pro tem of the university, the man at the medical center who stepped in to work closest with Perkins and the other Endowment trustees was Anlyan, who is now vice president for health affairs.

Anlyan identified Perkins as being "intensely interested in education, in everything from the secondary school through professional education. We were privileged to have him equally interested in health affairs and medicine. He would go out of his way to help in any way possible."

Beyond that, Anlyan said, "He was a warm, sincere personal friend. He was

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JOHN M. STRIBLING



MICHAEL J. SCHWARTZ

## New Administrative Positions Go to Stribling and Schwartz

John (Mac) Stribling and Michael J. Schwartz have been promoted to assistant administrative directors of the hospital.

Stribling has been unit administrator of the operating rooms, the Acute Care Unit, the recovery room and the laundry since 1970.

Schwartz has been unit administrator for pediatrics and obstetrics-gynecology wards since 1971.

Announcement of the promotions was made by Richard H. Peck, administrative director of the hospital. "I'm pleased to make this announcement," Peck said, "because these two men are very capable people, and they've consistently demonstrated their capabilities from the day they came to the hospital."

Stribling will retain his present duties. Schwartz will assume responsibility for the print shop, public safety, public relations information services, the Heart Station and the EEG Laboratory in addition to his present duties.

Stribling is a native of Ninety Six, S.C., and a 1962 graduate of Lander College with a degree in business administration. Before coming to Duke as a unit administrator, he worked as a store manager for Sears Roebuck, Inc., a training coordinator for the Monsanto Corporation and an assistant production manager with the Roxboro Manufacturing Co.

Since coming to Duke, Stribling has

participated in the Health Administration Management Improvement Program (HAMIP), which provides additional training to men and women already engaged in hospital administration.

Stribling said he became interested in hospitals while working at Greenville General Hospital in Greenville, S.C. during his college years and he has "enjoyed it more than anything I've ever done."

He and his wife Delaina have three young daughters — Lynette, Donna Carole and Dyanne.

Schwartz, who is from Youngstown, Ohio, is a 1963 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. In 1971 he received a master's degree in hospital administration. After undergraduate work, he was a research assistant in biochemistry at the State University of New York and served as a captain in the U.S. Army in Vietnam where he was awarded a bronze star.

In the summer of 1970 he was sent to England by the Duke Endowment with a group of hospital administrators and medical students as a part of the King's Fund College of Hospital Management to study the British health care system.

Schwartz said he is currently engaged in revising the SEDO directional sign system "so that it's better understood and used more readily."

He and his wife Phyllis have an 18-month-old daughter named Suzanne.