



*Oscar B. Hunter, Jr., MD
1915 to 1991*

Ben Hunter was born in Washington, DC in 1915, the son of a respected clinical pathologist at George Washington University. Ben followed in his father's footsteps into medicine and clinical pathology, and then into numerous roles in organized medicine.

During World War II Ben served with distinction as Chief of Laboratory Operations in four hospitals, two in England and two in France.

Locally, Ben served as director of the Oscar B. Hunter Memorial Lab from 1951 until his death. During that time, he also served as the director of the Departments of Pathology in four area hospitals.

Ben was an educator of physicians and technologists in pathology and nuclear medicine. He taught pathology at Georgetown University Medical School, beginning in 1946, and was clinical professor of pathology at the time of his death. Nuclear medicine was a real love of Dr. Hunter's, as evidenced by the titles in his voluminous bibliography. His professional curiosity was not, however, limited to nuclear medicine. Ben wrote on many subjects, including the 1983 book, "Role of Plastics in Cause of Death of 85 Victims in the MGM Hotel Fire."

Ben was an active member and an elected leader in many professional organizations including the American Medical Association. He was a delegate to the AMA House of Delegates, where he represented clinical pathology initially, and where for many years he was an elected officer of the Specialty Section and Service Delegates Council. Through his and others efforts, the American College of Nuclear Physicians was seated in the AMA House of Delegates. Ben became the first delegate representing the mission of the ACNP and nuclear medicine in the deliberations of the House. Ben will long be remembered by countless physicians, young and old, who benefitted from his advice and assistance in reference committees and floor debates in the AMA House of Delegates. He also served as a Past President of the College of American Pathologists, the Southern Medical Association, the Washington Society of Pathologists, and the American Association of Blood Banks. He was also an active member of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and a Regent of the American College of Nuclear Physicians.

During his long professional career, Ben earned numerous awards. The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology awarded him their Distinguished Unit Citation. Georgetown University bestowed upon him many awards, including an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 1984, the John Carroll Award in 1987 and the President's Medal in 1991. He was also the recipient of the 1958 District of Columbia Distinguished Award, the 1966 Georgetown Silver Vicennial Medal, and the 1970 John Elliott Memorial Award of the American Association of Blood Banks.

Many local and national civic and charitable organizations benefitted from the leadership and generosity of Ben and his devoted wife, Ann.

To all who took the time to know him, he was a generous friend.

*J.K. Goodrich, MD
Erie, Pennsylvania*