On his admission application to Davidson, Dr. Bernard Scoggins listed his two greatest strengths as “living my beliefs and giving of myself in all actions” and the “ability to lead—to release power from other people.” More than four decades later, Bernard has lived out these strengths through his medical missions work abroad and his service to his community of Albany, Georgia.

A pre-med major from Dalton, Georgia, who also studied German, Bernard graduated from Davidson summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1972. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and fondly recalls participating in the Honors College, playing in the pep band and wind ensemble, and playing sports with his classmates.

After graduating from medical school at Duke University, where he was elected to the AOA, in 1976, Bernard completed his residency in internal medicine at Emory University and resettled in Albany, where he has practiced internal medicine and geriatrics since 1979. He served as the medical director of Albany Area Primary Health Care Inc., a non-profit community health provider with 12 clinics and 50 physicians for over twenty years. His group established the first freestanding HIV clinic in the region more than 20 years ago. Bernard still practices geriatrics and internal medicine.

A board-certified geriatrics and internal medicine doctor, Bernard practices at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital. He has served for more than 20 years on the board of the Georgia Healthcare Ethics Consortium, a part of the Emory University Ethics Center, a member of the Board of Directors for his local hospital, Phoebe Putney for 25 years and as the president of the Dougherty County Health Department Board of Directors.

Bernard’s passion for service extends outside of the U.S., as his medical missions illustrate. He travels to India almost annually, and to El Salvador in the 1990s with the Southwest Georgia Medical Mission Team. The Center now has 27 sites where they see patients and approximately 80 providers in 27 sites and in 9 different countries. In addition, Bernard has participated with People to People exchanges in China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, Cuba and Rwanda. In 1990, Bernard was named Provider of the Year by the Georgia Association for Primary Health Care. In 2001, he was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Award for Dougherty County for being an “agent for change for the common good,” and for “generously sharing time, talent and energy in helping others to a better life.” In 2007, he received the Heroes in Health Care Ethics Award from Emory University.

Dr. Bernard Scoggins, for your commitment to serving the local and international community through healthcare, and for living up to your goals of giving of yourself and releasing power from others through your leadership, the Davidson College Alumni Association is pleased to present you the John W. Kuykendall Award for Community Service on the occasion of your 45th reunion, June 10, 2017.