

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

**Honoring
Gerard Engh '63
June 8, 2018**

Dr. Gerard "Jerry" Engh, Davidson College class of 1963, knew from an early age that medicine was going to be his chosen path – it said as much on his entrance paperwork for college admission. A member of Davidson's varsity golf team and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, Jerry went on to earn a medical degree from the University of Virginia and devoted his career to improving the quality of his patient's lives.

Following an internship and residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital, he served two years as a major in the Army Medical Corps before joining his brother, Charles '59, at the Anderson Orthopaedic Clinic in Northern Virginia, which was founded by their father, Otto Anderson Engh.

Together, the brothers revolutionized orthopaedic implants for the hip and knee. In 1983, they began a fellowship training program in joint replacement surgery and have trained over 130 orthopedic surgeons. In 2003, they launched "Operation Walk Virginia," which sends 50 health care professionals annually to third world countries and perform joint replacement surgeries for those who would not otherwise have access to this type of surgery.

Jerry lobbied to the Fairfax County School Board the need to have certified athletic trainers at every high school sporting event. This subsequently became a funded position and a requirement at all high schools in the region.

Along with other physicians, Dr. Jerry—as he was known around the office—compiled an important database for tracking the outcomes of knee replacement surgery. Using this information and his experience with knee replacement surgeries, he developed the Anderson Orthopaedic Research Institute (AORI) Bone Defect Classification System that many clinicians currently use to describe the extent of bone damage in a knee that requires a revision surgery.

His dedication to improving knee arthroplasty implants and surgical procedures resulted in many journal publications and book chapters that archive the operative techniques he developed and preserve the data he generated for future generations of orthopaedic surgeons. In 2001, he co-founded Alexandria Research Technologies with the goal of pursuing a new implant design idea for knee replacement surgery. This led to the concept of Tissue Guided Surgery, a surgical procedure that optimizes the placement of the knee implants based on the patient's own knee motion and an implant designed specifically for this type of surgery.

Although now retired from clinical practice, Dr. Jerry continues to maintain a keen interest in implant technology and innovative new options for joint replacement surgery.

Dr. Jerry and his wife, Patty, have four adult children and 13 grandchildren. In 2007, Jerry and Patty, along with her brother, started the Laila Rose Foundation to provide support for the health care needs of children who can't afford life-saving treatment. They have funded medical expenses for over 60 children. In fact, they are hosting their 10th anniversary gala fund raiser Reunion Weekend which is why they are unable to attend reunion. Outside of medicine, he is passionate about farming and his cattle ranch, and he has continued to enjoy the game of golf, passions that suit his love for the outdoors.

Just this past year Jerry and Patty launched Lakota Fresh Foods to provide an on-line market outlet for food raised and grown in Northern Virginia. Increasingly small farmers are unable to find sales opportunities for locally grown fresh healthy food and customers have a hard time finding quality fresh foods. They are now partnered with 15 farms in Culpeper County and Northern Virginia.

Dr. Gerard Engh, for your life-changing contributions to the field of medicine; for your commitment to improving all patients' lives; and for a career dedicated to leading and serving those around you, the Davidson College Alumni Association recognizes you with the Distinguished Alumni Award on the occasion of your 55th reunion, June 8, 2018.