

Dr. Hugh Edward Stephenson, Jr.

Missouri '43

Oxford Cup Roll N° 030

Hugh Stephenson has built Beta Theta Pi and its Zeta Phi chapter a legacy of dedication, devotion and sensitivity. Many say his practice of these attributes has been daily. A distinguished cardio-thoracic surgeon, developer of the first resuscitation unit, also known as the defibrillator, he is credited with leadership in the effort to establish a four-year medical school at University of Missouri, Columbia. Important in this fight were his persistent lobbying of state legislators; his performance at the 1951 hearing to establish Columbia, rather than Kansas City, as site of Missouri's first state-funded medical school.

He was Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity president, 1978-81, after having served as vice president 1973-76. He had been a district chief 1967-73. Along the way he also had been chapter counselor, a house corporation board member, chairman of the fund-raising campaign for a new chapter house and currently serves as faculty advisor. A major addition to the Zeta Phi chapter house has been named the Hugh E. Stephenson, Jr. Annex.

Hugh Stephenson became a member of the faculty of University of Missouri School of Medicine at Columbia in 1953. He received professorship in surgery in 1956 and was chairman of the department of surgery 1956-60.

In 1956 he also was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in the Nation. This also was a period for which he was appointed a Markle Scholar in Academic Medicine. In 1962 he visited all of the medical schools in the United Kingdom as a Surgical Traveler of the James IV Associates of Surgery.

He was then chief of the Missouri school's division of general surgery 1976-87 and chief of staff 1982-94. He was named John Growdon Distinguished Professor emeritus in 1987. He was named interim dean in 1988-89, associate dean 1989-92 and distinguished professor of surgery emeritus in 1993. He is past president of the Missouri State Surgical Society.

Winning the four-year designation for the medical school resulted in the addition of an open-heart program. It made Missouri's hospital one of only 20 facilities in the entire country where surgical heart procedures were taking place. Partly as a result of this, Hugh Stephenson is author of *Immediate Care of the Acutely Ill and Injured*, its second edition in 1974; *Cardiac Arrest and Resuscitation*, its fourth edition in 1975 and, currently, *Aesculapius was a Tiger*, an occasionally light-hearted reminder of how medical school came to be. Alongside these in the John Reily Knox Library at Oxford is *Kicks That Count*, 1981, a 270-page volume on the finer points of place-kicking a football.

He has an SMU Beta son Ted, also known as Hugh Edward III; a daughter, a one-time professional tennis player, and their mother Sally Dickinson Stephenson, who has logged some 25 Beta Conventions herself.

Robert T. Howard, DePauw '37, General Fraternity Historian