

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FIXED PROSTHODONTICS PRESIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHY





SAMUEL GUYER, DDS, FACD, FACP, FICD **PRESIDENT, AACB 1977-1978**

circa 1970

2009

Sam Guyer was born in Miami, Oklahoma on March 16, 1922. At the age of four, the family moved to Oklahoma City where he grew up. In school his primary interest was art and music.

He was playing in a western band in Amarillo, Texas when World War II started. Before being

drafted, he joined the Navy. After Boot Camp and Hospital Corps School at Great Lakes, Illinois, he was sent to San Diego, California, for Dental Technician School. He became interested in prosthetics because of two Dental Officers, one who was a member of the B. B. McCollum study club and the other a member of the Milas House study club. His proficiency in prosthetic laboratory procedures was enhanced because of a technician who had worked in the office of B. B. McCollum.

Following World War II, Sam decided to go to dental school. He completed pre-dental at Oklahoma State University, where he was elected into the "Alpha Pi Mu Honorary Pre-Med Fraternity".

In 1948, he started dental school at Washington University in St Louis, Missouri. He joined the Xi Psi Phi Fraternity and later in the year he wrote a song for the fraternity. At the end of the freshman year, he received the "Xi Psi Phi Gross Anatomy Award" for having the highest grade in Gross Anatomy. In the sophomore year, Sam received the "M. H. Kornblum Memorial Alpha Omega Award" for having the grade point average for that year. For the same reason, he received the "Delta Sigma Delta Scholarship Award" in his junior year. For the senior year, he received the "Distinguished Washington University Alumni Award" for having the highest four-year grade point average in his class. He also became a member of the "Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Fraternity".

Immediately upon graduation, Dr. Guyer joined the faculty of Washington University School of Dental Medicine as instructor of Crown and Bridge Prosthetics and rapidly advanced to become head of the department in 1958. He was appointed Clinic Director for the school from 1960 to 1969. He was promoted to Professor of Fixed Prosthodontics in 1961, as well as being inducted into the American College of Dentists. In 1977, he became Chairman of the Department of Restorative Dentistry, which incorporated the former departments of Dental Anatomy, Dental Materials, Fixed and Removable Prosthodontics and Occlusion. Dr. Guyer served as Secretary of the Faculty from 1979 to 1982. In 1987, he was awarded Professor Emeritus of Restorative Dentistry. He also received a special White House Commendation from President Ronald Reagan.

Dr. Guyer's academic achievements were characterized by his organizational and leadership skills, as well as research abilities resulting in numerous journal and textbook publications, several videotapes, and a clinic manual. His clinical skills and compassionate individual approach stimulated students to new heights of achievement in fixed prosthodontics.

Dr. Guyer had an exceptional record of service to the profession. He served on numerous committees and held office in many dental and prosthodontic societies. He was Secretary for eight years, Vice President, and President (1970-1971) of the American Academy of fixed Prosthodontics. He is a member of the American Dental Association and component societies, American Association of Dental Schools, Midwest Academy of Prosthodontics, Charter Fellow, American College of Prosthodontists and International College of Prosthodontists, and served as President of the Federation of Prosthodontic Organizations (1975-1976). Dr. Guyer became a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics in 1963, an examiner for the board in 1965, and its President in 1970 to 1971. He also served on the Missouri Dental Specialty Board for Prosthodontics as an examiner from 1968 to 1986, and its Chairman 1981-1986.

Dr. Guyer's consultant activities include Consultant to the 5th Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, National Consultant to the Veterans Administration, and Consultant to the Surgeon General of the U.S. Air Force. From 1980 to 1988, he served as prosthodontic consultant to the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation. He served as Section Editor in Fixed Prosthodontics for the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry from 1975-1989 and presented many lectures and post-graduate courses nationally and internationally in prosthodontics.

After his teaching career of 35 years, Dr. Guyer continued practicing prosthodontic dentistry for an additional 11 years (a total of 46 years), retiring after he sustained a heart attack.

In 1996, Dr. Guyer received the "George Moulton Award", the highest award given by the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics.

In 2006, Dr. Guyer received the "2005 Frankel Outstanding Alumnus Award", which was given by the Xi Psi Phi Fraternity's Supreme Chapter Board of Directors to an alumnus who made significant contributions to the fraternity. One unique contribution was the fraternity song he penned, "The Sweetheart of Xi Psi Phi." He also penned an original song "There is Something on My Mind That I Must Tell You".

Dr. Guyer died December 11, 2010. He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Jane Eidson Guyer. Survivors included 4 children and 2 grandchildren.



