

Marshall A. Wakat, Jr. '59

The fourth Northridge product in this class of the Hall of Fame is Dr. Marshall A. Wakat, Jr., M.D., Ph. D. who grew up in Northridge and graduated from NHS in 1959. At NHS he played football, was a member of Key Club, and was in the Honor Society.

At Bowling Green State University, Marshall was on the swim team. He earned a B.S. in Chemistry in 1963 and a Ph.D. in Nuclear Chemistry at the University of Michigan in 1967. He earned his M.D. at the Medical University of South Carolina in 1975. He served his internship in internal medicine (1976) and his residency in nuclear medicine and diagnostic radiology (1975-1979) at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Since earning his M.D., he has taken six courses and workshops dealing with mammography.

In 1979, Marshall was certified in Diagnostic Radiology with special competence in Nuclear Radiology by the American Board of Radiology and was certified in Nuclear Medicine by the American Board of Nuclear Medicine. He is a member of 11 professional medical organizations and has published 11 articles for medical journals.

While working on his Ph.D. and his M.D., he worked as a research chemist at the University of Michigan (1963-67) and at the Mound Laboratories in the summers of 1965 and 1966. He was an instructor of radiology at the Medical School of South Carolina (1973-75) and Director of Emergency Room Physicians at R.J. Reynolds Memorial Hospital (1975-79). Since 1979, he has been a staff radiologist at Roanoke Memorial Hospitals and Community Hospital of Roanoke. Since 1980, he has been the Director of Nuclear Medicine at Roanoke Memorial Hospitals. In 2002, he toured six hospitals in Turkey and gave a lecture about breast cancer diagnosis and management.

Besides medicine, Marshall keeps busy with community service and sports. While his sons were growing, he was active as a cubmaster and a scoutmaster over a 12 year period. He assisted 13 young men achieve the level of Eagle Scout. His family is active in community theater, giving financial support and hosting actor families. He also has helped build sets and, last year, was President of the Aiken Little Theater.

Marshall was a runner for about 12 years, completing eight marathons. For the past 15 years, he has participated in triathlons, and last year was the winner of the over 60 age group in the South Carolina Triathlon series. He enjoys skiing in Breckenridge, Colorado.

Both his sons moved to Breckenridge after finishing college. He has gone on backpacking trips in New Zealand and Switzerland and annually in Great Britain. Last year, he completed a 600 mile cycling pilgrimage across northern Spain.