

The David and Diane de Harter Visiting Professorship

We are pleased to announce that Dr. David de Harter and his wife Diane de Harter have given \$70,000 to Alpha Omega Alpha to support the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society David and Diane de Harter Visiting Professorship at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Dr. de Harter was elected to AQA at the University of Wisconsin in 1968. He served in the Navy Medical Corps during medical school (Ensign 1915 Program), internship (Bethesda Naval Hospital), and afterward in the fleet, base dispensary, and Naval Hospital, Charleston, South Carolina. After leaving the military, Dr. de Harter entered a radiation oncology residency at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, where he won first prize in the M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute Project Competition for Fellows, Residents, and Project Investigators. He has been the director of Radiation Oncology at Columbia Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at Immanuel Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska, at Flagstaff Medical Center in Flagstaff, Arizona, and at Treasure Coast Radiation Oncology Center in Port St. Lucie, Florida. He is now retired from practice and lives with his wife Diane in Palm City, Florida, where they enjoy their children and grandchildren, and golfing, boating, and their club.



My wife Diane and I have always aspired to the goals and core values of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, so beautifully expressed in its motto: “Be worthy to serve the suffering.” We hope that our gift will encourage other physicians and families to consider what they might do through activism or targeted giving to help the profession of medicine in these trying times. Surely, medicine will always be a noble profession. But the business of health care is becoming increasingly tawdry. We see many physicians beleaguered, challenged, and frustrated by the changes in the health care industry, and we wish we could do more to help.

We have long been active in and supportive of the American Cancer Society and other organizations that boost the arts, culture, civic engagement, and medical education. This gift will exert a force multiplier effect as it supports Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society’s mission, and helps students and teachers at our alma mater, the University of Wisconsin.

Alpha Omega Alpha Executive Director Dr. Richard Byyny’s editorial in the Winter 2013 issue of *The Pharos*, “Leadership for the Future,” struck a responsive chord. Dr. Byyny discussed the erosion of physician leadership in the last seventy-five years of American medicine, and the consequent need for more physicians to become leaders who exemplify the core values of the medical profession and express the views of men and women closest to the problems of patient care, teaching, and medical research.

Diane and I feel privileged to support Alpha Omega Alpha’s goals and vision for the future of medicine. We invite you to join us in moving medicine forward. This is a time for action.

David J. de Harter, MD
AQA, University of Wisconsin, 1968

On behalf of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, our members, and our Board of Directors, I want to thank David and Diane de Harter for their thoughtful and generous donation to AQA. David has been an active member of the society since being elected in 1968 and he told me he has always valued being an AQA member and he reads and enjoys *The Pharos* regularly.

David enjoyed a long and distinguished professional career in medicine. He cares deeply for our profession, our physician colleagues, and patients. David and Diane’s gift supports in perpetuity medical education through outstanding visiting professor educators and leaders at their alma mater, the University of Wisconsin.

Richard L. Byyny, MD, Executive Director
AQA, University of Southern California, 1964