

# Distinguished Achievement Citation

Stephen F. “Rick” Schaal, M.D.

Class of 1960

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan’s Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan University Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored and privileged to recognize Stephen F. “Rick” Schaal for his outstanding career as scholar, clinical cardiologist, and teacher.

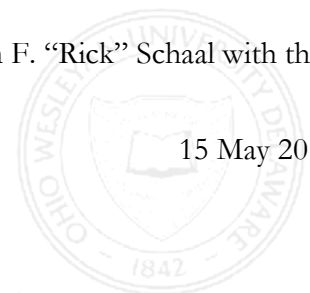
A pre-medicine major and member of Phi Gamma Delta, Rick also was a superb golfer and a member of W-Clan. In addition, he found time to be a member of Interfraternity Council and to work for the Red Cross and *Le Bijou*. After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan, he earned his M.D. at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Rick then moved on to Duke University Medical School for his internship, residency, and a fellowship in cardiology. Following that period, he served with the U.S. Air Force, performing cardiovascular research at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

Returning to Ohio State as an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Rick quickly became Director of the newly organized Coronary Care Unit in 1971, with clinical responsibilities for cardiac patients at a time when interventional cardiology was beginning its evolution. By 1972, Rick also was appointed Director of Ohio State’s first dedicated electrophysiology laboratory, one of the earliest such facilities in the United States. His leadership provided the basis for Ohio State’s exceptional electrophysiology program, and he remained as Director for 22 years, also rising to Professor of Medicine. From 1995 to 1997, he served as Chief of Staff at The Ohio State University Hospitals. From 1983 to 1985, he was also an Adjunct Professor at Ohio State’s School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

While managing his professional duties and research, Rick also became widely known as an exemplary teacher. His students and colleagues at Ohio State have bestowed virtually every teaching honor possible on their professor, mentor, and friend. In 1993 and 1999, he was voted Teacher of the Year by the Ohio State University Medical Housestaff. In 1996, the medical students honored him with the Teacher of Medicine Award. In 1997, he was recognized with the Charles F. Wooley Transmission of Excellence Award, presented by The Ohio State University Cardiology Fellows. He repeated this award in 2003, 2004, and 2006. In 2002, he received the Earl Metz Distinguished Physician Award from the Department of Internal Medicine. This award “acknowledges the lineage of clinicians and master teachers in the department.”

A member of Alpha Omega Alpha, Rick has published nearly 100 articles and chapters. He is a Fellow of the American Federation for Clinical Research, the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Physicians, and the Council of Circulation of the American Heart Association. Rick served on countless committees for The Ohio State University College of Medicine, the American Heart Association Central Ohio Chapter, and the American Heart Association Ohio Affiliate.

For these accomplishments and a career well-lived, we applaud and recognize Stephen F. “Rick” Schaal with the presentation of this Distinguished Achievement Citation.



15 May 2010