Dr. Red Duke


By all accounts, renowned surgeon Dr. James H. “Red” Duke, Jr., rode the trail well. On Tuesday, August 25, 2015, Dr. Duke passed away at the age of 86. He was surrounded by his family and friends.

Duke, the John B. Holmes Professor of Clinical Sciences at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Medical School, was a dedicated physician known for his extraordinary patient care and efforts to train medical students and surgeons while educating the public about health issues. As one of the medical school’s first faculty members, Duke established the trauma service at what is now Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center. The Level 1 trauma center, part of the Memorial Hermann Texas Trauma Institute (TTI), has become a safety net for Houston and its surrounding counties. As the busiest trauma center in the nation, and the only one in Houston with a verified burn center, the TTI provides lifesaving services for both adults and children.

—continued on page 2
2015 was an outstanding year for Memorial Hermann, but it was also a year of great loss. Memorial Hermann and UTHouston lost medical pioneer Dr. James H. “Red” Duke, Jr. Dr. Duke’s contributions, dedication and service to healthcare have made a lasting impact on medicine and the individuals that he met throughout his distinguished career. He saved countless lives and educated thousands of students. His impact on the medical community, most notably through his advancement of trauma services, extends far beyond the greater Houston area, and his legacy will remain for generations to come.

As the “Father of Trauma,” Dr. Duke stressed the importance of innovative care for critically-injured patients. This focus aligns with Memorial Hermann’s announcement to expand and enhance trauma services through the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Contributions to Breaking New Ground and the many programs at Memorial Hermann allow our Health System to be a leader in the worldwide healthcare community, providing patients the quality care they deserve.

This quality care has once again been recognized. In October, Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center (TMC) was awarded the Bernard A. Birnbaum, MD, Quality Leadership Award, formerly named the UHC Quality Leadership Award. Presented by UHC, an alliance of the nation’s leading nonprofit academic medical centers, the award is given to members that demonstrate superior performance as measured by the UHC Quality and Accountability Study. Memorial Hermann-TMC was one of only 13 member hospitals across the country chosen as a 2015 award winner.

I sincerely thank you for your generosity to Memorial Hermann and wish you and your family good health in 2016.

Sincerely,

Dan Wolterman
President & CEO
Memorial Hermann Health System

In 1976, Duke was instrumental in developing Memorial Hermann Life Flight®, the state’s first air ambulance service. For nearly four decades, he served as Life Flight’s medical director. As one of the most successful programs in the history of the Texas Medical Center, Life Flight is on-call for Houston and surrounding communities 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year, weather permitting. Since its inaugural flight, Life Flight has flown more than 135,000 missions and has continually served all hospitals and populations, regardless of a patient’s ability to pay.

“Dr. Duke was one of our country’s great doctors. He was a friend, a colleague, and a role model and mentor to a generation of doctors who benefited immensely from his guidance. I, along with everyone at Memorial Hermann, will forever miss Dr. Duke,” Dan Wolterman, president and CEO, Memorial Hermann Health System.

Duke’s trademark bottle-brush mustache, military issued wire-rimmed glasses, Texas twang and colorful stories accented with a cowboy hat and folksy humor made Duke a one-of-a-kind hero with the personality of an old-fashioned country doctor and the extraordinary talent of a modern-day surgeon.

Dr. Duke’s memory lives on throughout the Texas Medical Center and Memorial Hermann campuses. His passion for saving lives and providing the highest level of care for each patient will be remembered always.

“When the un...
thinkable happens, we are there. For our patients, the difference is survival.”

— DR. JAMES “RED” DUKE
The Woodlands Receives An Insider’s View of Healthcare with Memorial Hermann Health System President & CEO Dan Wolterman

On September 17, Memorial Hermann Health System president & CEO Dan Wolterman shared an insider’s view of healthcare with more than 40 community leaders from The Woodlands. Josh Urban, Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital (MHTW) senior vice president & CEO, was also present to mingle with friends and advocates who gathered at The Club at Carlton Woods.

Both Wolterman and Urban highlighted the Health System’s investments in MHTW over the past few years including a new patient tower to provide the much needed space for heart and vascular, neuroscience, orthopedics, and trauma services. Memorial Hermann has also added a Joint Center for knee and hip replacements, TIRR Memorial Hermann-The Woodlands for inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation and expanded pediatric services, including a Level III neonatal intensive care unit. Future improvements will include a significant Emergency Department renovation and expansion, along with a new “home” for Memorial Hermann Life Flight®. The air ambulatory service will have an increased presence at the hospital and a new helipad location on the roof of the East Tower.

Urban announced the new Cancer Survivors’ Center, Canopy, will open in 2016. Canopy was created to offer those touched by cancer a variety of programs and services that address emotional, physical, and social needs. This unique center will be the first of its kind in the region and will serve all cancer survivors and their families, regardless of hospital and physician affiliation. MHTW’s In the Pink of Health Luncheon provided seed funding for Canopy.

At the close of the evening, Wolterman shared his sentiments for The Woodlands community, “We have placed the best physicians into the best facilities to provide the absolute best care for all of you. As a former resident of The Woodlands, I understand the need to have high-quality healthcare in your community and am proud that Memorial Hermann delivers it to you.”
Taking Health to Greater Heights

On Tuesday, October 27, more than 75 community members gathered to celebrate the recently renamed Memorial Hermann Greater Heights. Formerly Memorial Hermann Northwest Hospital, the new name is a direct reflection of the exciting changes happening in The Heights community and at the hospital.

“Houston and the Greater Heights have changed and will likely continue to change,” Susan Jadlowski, senior vice president & CEO Memorial Hermann Greater Heights said. “Our commitment to provide excellent patient service and expertise at every level of care is steadfast and we will always adapt to meet the needs of our growing community.”

The new name is one of many changes at the hospital. Already home to a number of nationally-accredited programs, Memorial Hermann Greater Heights, located at Loop 610 and Ella Blvd., has steadily broadened its spectrum of service and specialties in recent years. The hospital added 88 credentialed physicians in the last year. Additionally, Dan Woltermann, president & CEO Memorial Hermann Health System, announced the System’s plans to build a 44,000-square-foot Convenient Care Center (CCC) at I-10 and Studemont. The CCC will provide one-stop access to adult and pediatric primary care, specialty physicians, rehabilitation, outpatient imaging and a 24-hour emergency room.

“In collaboration with Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, residents of the Greater Heights and surrounding areas will have walk-in access to comprehensive round-the-clock medical care at our new Convenient Care Center,” said Woltermann. The CCC is scheduled to open Summer 2017.
The 2015-16 school year marks the 20th anniversary of Memorial Hermann’s award-winning school-based health initiative — Health Centers for Schools. The program began in 1996 with two centers serving three schools. Today, Memorial Hermann operates health centers on-site at ten campuses in five school districts as well as three mobile dental clinics providing healthcare access to approximately 65,000 students at 70 schools. “Feeder” patterns are accommodated, making it possible for a child to receive continuity of care from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.

The centers provide free, readily accessible, primary medical, mental health, nutritional and dental care services to uninsured and underinsured children. The centers are located in schools and school districts that have students with documented barriers to healthcare. Of the students served, 93% are on the free/reduced lunch program, a nationally accepted indicator of poverty. Current locations include Houston ISD’s Elrod Elementary School, Burbank Middle School, Hogg Middle School and Sharpstown High School as well as Pasadena ISD’s Matthys Elementary and Kruse Elementary Schools. Centers are also located at Lamar High School and Terry High School in Lamar Consolidated ISD, Alief Clinic in Alief ISD and Nimitz Clinic at Dunn Elementary School in Aldine ISD.

The overriding objective of school-based health centers is to bring increased healthcare access to underserved children in order to keep them healthy and in school where they can learn and thrive. “Memorial Hermann is committed to addressing the healthcare access issues experienced by the medically disadvantaged,” says Deborah Ganelin, associate vice president for the program. “We see school-based healthcare as an avenue to address these issues. Healthcare is provided where children are located — at school — and children who feel better perform better, making their future brighter.”

Staffing at each center consists of a healthcare team with medical oversight provided by a Memorial Hermann-affiliated physician. Additionally, two dieticians and navigators rotate among the clinics. The Health Centers operate Monday through Friday, during school hours, twelve months a year.

Dental care is a critical need and even more difficult for underserved populations to obtain than basic medical care as these services cannot be received in an
emergency room setting. Three 40-foot mobile dental vans, staffed with a dentist and one to two dental assistants, provide access to preventative and restorative services at nine Health Centers for Schools sites. The vans rotate among the Health Centers at three-month intervals. “Some of the children I see have never been to a dentist”, says Mahasti Chalajour, D.D.S. The program not only treats the physical pain caused by poor oral health but also addresses the emotional issues suffered by many children who are upset and embarrassed about the appearance of their decayed teeth.

The Health Centers for Schools program has a history of documented outcomes that show improvements in health status when a medical home is provided to at-risk children. According to the most recent data, asthma exacerbations, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations were reduced by 92.2%. Additionally, statistically significant improvements were made in managing cholesterol levels, reducing body mass index and increasing physical activity. For students in the counseling program, overall grade point average increased, days absent decreased and suspensions and detentions decreased.

33,000
annual visits

10,000
students served

10
school-based clinics

3
mobile dental vans

70
schools with a total population of approximately 65,000

The Health Centers for Schools program is funded by Memorial Hermann in collaboration with school districts, state and federal grants, and philanthropic support. The school districts provide in-kind services including transportation. Philanthropy is a critical source of support. Since the program’s inception, contributions by individuals, corporations and foundations have enabled the program to expand and serve more children in need.

“The Power of Pink” raised $300,000 to benefit the Bobetta Lindig Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann Memorial City. The luncheon, chaired by mother-daughter power duo Yvonne Cormier and Claire Cormier Thielke, was held on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at The Westin Houston Memorial City. A Memorable Event adorned the space into “The Power of Pink” for the more than 500 attendees. Guests sipped pink champagne while shopping at local Houston boutiques including Kendra Scott.

KPRC 2 local anchor Dominique Sachse served as the emcee which honored breast cancer survivor Cora Sue Mach for her support of breast cancer awareness and treatment, as well as her philanthropic work in the Houston community. Razzle Dazzle also recognized Donna Vallone as this year’s honorary chair.

The event was full of memorable moments, including Council Member Brenda Stardig presenting a proclamation to Mach for her tireless work, volunteer hours, and philanthropic funding to raise support for various Houston organizations. “It is our honor and pleasure to hereby proclaim October 1, 2015 as Cora Sue Mach Day. Cora Sue, you are a cornerstone to our great Houston community, and we could not be more thrilled to honor you on this day,” said Stardig.

Lucas also brought down the house when she invited fellow survivors to join her on stage. After her emotional salute to the more than 100 women standing by her side, Lucas led the group into a conga line to Pharrell Williams’ upbeat hit, “Happy.”

Proceeds from the rosy-hued luncheon are spent on breast cancer education, the latest in technology and equipment, and community outreach programs. The Bobetta Lindig Breast Care Center is a comprehensive breast health facility with a full range of advanced screening and diagnostic services. Since its inception in 2010, Razzle Dazzle has generated more than $1,250,000 to support breast cancer patients and their families.
1. Yvonne Cormier, Bobetta Lindig, Cora Sue Mach and Claire Cormier Thielke
2. Conga line of survivors
3. Donna Vallone, Sandy Barrett and Susan Sarofim
4. Yvonne Cormier, Geralyn Lucas, Claire Cormier Thielke, Ileana Treviño
5. Survivors on stage with speaker Geralyn Lucas
6. Leisa Holland-Nelson and Dominique Sachse
7. Winell Herron, Gayla Gardner, Shawntell McWilliams and Gina Gaston Elle
8. Carolyn Schachere, Kimberly, Jo Lynn and Christine Falgout
9. Stacy Johnson and Holly Alvis
10. Cathy Borlenghi and Neda Ladjevardian
11. Kristina Somerville, Ileana Treviño, Hallie Vanderhider
A group of more than 1,250 guests filled The Woodlands Waterway Marriott & Convention Center donning their best pink (for breast cancer) or teal (for ovarian cancer) attire for the 15th Annual Memorial Hermann In the Pink of Health Luncheon. Author and former Good Morning America anchor Joan Lunden served as this year’s emcee and shared her journey as a breast cancer survivor.

While working on a report for Good Morning America about the importance of breast cancer testing, Lunden learned that dense breast tissue impeded her doctors from seeing the bigger picture when she had mammograms. Because of this, she had to have an ultrasound on top of the yearly mammograms.

“None of my doctors had ever discussed with me the need to have that ancillary test,” Lunden said. “It was a fluke that as a journalist I was sent to interview... about mammograms.”

Lunden later had the ultrasound done and learned she had cancer. I think that interview saved my life,” she said. “And now it’s my turn to pay it forward.”

Since its inception in 2001, Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital’s In the Pink of Health Luncheon has raised more than $3.5 million in support of programs and services aimed to reduce the incidence of breast and ovarian cancer and assist survivors in their journey. 100% of the funds raised from In the Pink of Health remain in Montgomery County.
In the Pink Premier Party

1. Joan Lunden, Scott and Ruth Hiller, and David Hiller
2. Dan and Marian Spence
3. Jack and Melissa Preston
4. Phil and Ellen Asherman and Kelly and Brady Hull

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 713.897.PINK (7465) or email inthepink@memorialhermann.org
Saturday, May 7, 2016
Reception 7 p.m.  Dinner 8 p.m.
Hilton Americas-Houston  1600 Lamar

HONORING THE LATE
Dr. James H. “Red” Duke, Jr.

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