Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Dr. Lloyd Butler

Selected by the YVCC Alumni Association, Dr. Lloyd Butler is this year’s recipient of the Yakima Valley Community College Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Dr. Butler is the President of the Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences and is working to provide more opportunities for medical training in the Yakima Valley. “Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences directly impacts the medical field by creating opportunities for physicians and other healthcare professionals to enrich the quality of life in the Pacific Northwest, now and for generations to come,” stated Dr. Butler.

Dr. Butler was born in Auburn, Washington but was raised in the Yakima Valley and graduated from Yakima Valley Community College in 1965. He completed his pre-medical studies at Central Washington University. In 1971 he graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, and did his post-doctoral training at Mesa General Hospital in Arizona. He practiced osteopathic family medicine for 32 years in Sunnyside before retiring in 2004. During this time he also served twice as Chief of Staff at Sunnyside Community Hospital as well as a member of their board. He is widely known for delivering many children in Sunnyside and the surrounding areas. In 2009 Dr. Butler was awarded the J. Scott Heatherington Lifetime Achievement Award from the Northwest Osteopathic Medical Association.

Committed to his community, Dr. Butler is an active member of the American Osteopathic Association, Washington Osteopathic Medical Association, Yakima County Osteopathic Society, Washington State Medical Association, and Yakima County Medical Society. Dr. Butler is a founding member of the Sunnyside Community Hospital Foundation, and served as president of the Osteopathic Foundation of Central Washington. He is a current board member for Columbia Trust Bank, Custom Coding Books, and is a past board member for the following organizations: Northwest Osteopathic Foundation, Home Security Bank, and CodeCorrect.com. He also served as Associate Clinical Professor at the University of Washington and several osteopathic medical universities. In addition he has mentored hundreds of osteopathic medical students throughout his career.

Dr. Butler is a prominent developer of several retirement communities, and numerous commercial properties in Yakima and across the state including Comfort Suites Hotel, Chesterley Park Plaza, Chesterley Meadows Assisted Living and Yakima Alzheimer’s Care, Blossom Creek Memory Care, Moses Lake Senior Care, Park Meadows, Specialty Center, Butler Medical Building, and Morningside Care LLC, which includes facilities in Moses Lake, Wenatchee, Ellensburg, Kennewick, Milton, and Lacey. He is also a member of the Yakima Rotary Club.

Dr. Butler and his wife, Gloria, are strong supporters of the community, and have made philanthropic gifts to Sunnyside Community Hospital, Washington Osteopathic Family Medicine Program, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, and other community and professional organizations. “My wife, Gloria, and I have come to realize that helping found a medical university in our valley is the most important thing we will do in our lifetime,” stated Dr. Butler.