

Dr. John P. Shultz



Dr. John P. Shultz, Class of 1951 graduate, is the 2012 recipient of the Urbana High School Distinguished Alumni Award. His dedication to medicine and to the care of children is outstanding. Because of his dedication to medicine, he received his “Fifty Years of Service” pin from the American Medical Association

During his years at Urbana High School, he was involved in many activities including the Spanish club, the science club, and National Honor Society. He was freshman class treasurer, sophomore class vice president, and junior class president. He was a member of the boy’s glee club, the choir, and the band. In addition, he was on the high school debate team, went to Buckeye Boy’s State, and was on the track team. At graduation, he was awarded the Grimes Scholarship, which was the only academic scholarship awarded at graduation at that time.

Dr. Shultz was accepted into medical school early after only three years of pre-med. He graduated with both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a degree from The Ohio State University School of Medicine in 1958. During his undergraduate years, continuing his interest in music, he was in the OSU Marching Band. He was later inducted into both Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical school honorary for academic excellence.

He began his medical career at Philadelphia General Hospital, serving a rotating internship from 1958 to 1959. From 1959 to 1961, he served in the United States Navy in Minneapolis.

After his years in the navy, Dr. Shultz returned to Columbus, Ohio, to complete a general practice residency at Riverside Methodist Hospital; he went on to Children’s Hospital, first as a pediatric resident and then as chief resident from 1962 to 1965.

His outstanding academic career at The Ohio State University College of Medicine began in 1965 as a clinical instructor for two years. He continued as a clinical assistant professor from 1967 to 1971, clinical associate professor from 1971 to 1977, and as a clinical professor from 1977 to 2010. During those same years, he was on Saint Ann’s Hospital’s active staff and on courtesy staff at several hospitals, including Riverside, Grant, and Mount Carmel. Beginning in 1969, he was on the active staff at Children’s Hospital. He also spent several years in private pediatric practice.

In addition to his service to Children’s Hospital as a pediatrician, he held many offices and positions from 1982 to 1998, including president of the Association of Poison Control Centers, Assistant Director of Poison Control, Director of Poison Control, Medical Director of Poison Control, and Medical Director of the Community Outreach Poison Center.

Dr. Shultz has written, co-written, and published several articles in various medical journals, including the *OSH Medical Journal* and *the Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*. In addition, he has presented papers on ethics, biomedical ethics, and poisonous plants, and belongs to several professions societies, including the Central Ohio Pediatric Society and The American Academy of Pediatrics.

After he retired from the active practice of pediatrics, he worked to make Columbus Children's Hospital one of the best and safest hospitals in the nation, working with diligence to reduce errors that exist in patient care. Due to his work, Children's Hospital is nearly one hundred percent free of errors. Recognizing his accomplishment, the hospital created the "John P. Shultz, MD Quality Award," which is given to an individual who has led an improvement project within the hospital.