



Dwight R. Ashbey, M.D.

Dwight Ransford Ashbey, Jr., MD, 86, of Lancaster and Philadelphia, passed away of natural causes Sunday, June 8, 2008, at the Glen at Willow Valley. Born in Philadelphia, he was the son of the late Dwight Ransford and Emma Alteneder Ashbey.

Dwight was a 1943 graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, with a B.A. in Psychology. It was his time at F&M that springboarded him into his successful career. He then earned his medical degree in 1946 from Jefferson Medical College. From 1947 to 1949, he was a Captain in the U. S. Army Medical Corp. He was stationed at the 57th Field Hospital in Wurzburg, Germany. On his return, he continued his education and training by interning at Bryn Mawr Hospital and later at the University of Pennsylvania. His Pediatric residency was at the Children's Hospital, Philadelphia. Years later, he would become a resident in both Adult and Child Psychiatry at the Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute earning his second Doctorate degree.

He was a well known Pediatrician in Lancaster from 1951 to 1963. His hospital and administrative appointments included: Senior Pediatrician, Lancaster General Hospital from 1951 to 1953; Staff Psychiatrist and Acting Director of Training, Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute from 1967 to 1969; Staff Psychiatrist at Hahneman Hospital CMH/ MRC from 1969 to 1972; Staff Psychologist at Hall-Mercer CMH/MRC. He practiced Child Psychiatry and served as Clinical Associate Professor of Child Psychiatry at Hahnemann Medical College. After an accomplished career in medicine, he retired in the early 1990s.

Dwight grew up in a painting family, often being taken to exhibits and painting classes. Watercolors were of particular interest including the works of Sargent and Winslow Homer. For many years, he painted as a hobby, without formal training. As his retirement neared, he began taking classes in both Philadelphia and England. In 1988, he sensed his art was becoming more than a hobby. He enrolled in a class led by the American painter, Robert Carlow, and also spent two weeks in Ireland, painting every day. In addition to medicine, he finally became a talented watercolorist.

His hobbies throughout his life included gardening, flower arranging, playing bridge, doing crossword puzzles and traveling. His favorite place to travel was in England, where he had an apartment from 1985 until 2000.

He was a lifetime friend to many, of that he was proud and happy. His life was full of many wonderful experiences and joyful memories.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, and the Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society, the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

He is survived by his daughter Susan Ashbey Davis, wife of John Martino; 4 grandchildren, Matthew Davis, Jill Ashbey Davis, Nicholas Ashbey, and Peter Ashbey; 2 cousins, Jessie Godfrey and William Ashbey.

He is predeceased by his brother, Theodore Ashbey, and his son, John Wickersham Ashbey.

A memorial service will be held in the Nevin Chapel at Franklin and Marshall College, 628 College Ave., Lancaster on Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at 4 PM. The family will visit with friends at the chapel from 3 to 4 PM on Wednesday. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Dwight's name may be made to Franklin and Marshall College, Office of College Advancement, Academic Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 3003 Lancaster, PA 17604-3003. Arrangements by the Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 717-394-4097. For other information or to send an online condolence to the family, visit our website at www.kearneyansnyderfuneralhome.com.