

Remarks on Receiving the Distinguished Service Award

Helen K. Doherty, Administrative Secretary, AAPHD

Before I begin my "speech," I want to thank our exhibitors who so kindly agreed to have their exhibits moved out of this room so that we could have this luncheon here—they are really the best.

Thank you for this great honor. Thank you to those who planned this event, especially Myron, Dushanka, Denise, Skip, and Rhys. Thank you to those who spoke: Marsha, Gary, Steve, and Hermine. Thank you to all who

are here, especially our daughters, Maureen and Mary Jo.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with all of you for the past 14 years. You are my heroes—for the important work you do and for the grace and generosity with which you treat each other. Of course my greatest hero is my husband, who started these 14 years by calling me from the 1983 meeting in California saying that AAPHD needed my help. He then be-

gan 14 years of answering my dumb questions. I think the first was "What is an AAPHD?"

He has encouraged me and cared for me for 40 years and I know how lucky I am.

I've learned a lot from this job. The most important? How to spell Albuquerque!

Thank you again for this great honor.

Remarks on Receiving the Distinguished Service Award

Joseph M. Doherty, DDS, MPH

I would like to thank everybody for the kind words spoken here on behalf of Helen and myself. To receive any award is a high honor, but to be given the Distinguished Service Award by an association whose members are your peers and whom you admire and respect makes it doubly appreciated.

Those slides that Myron just showed of our marriage and family reminded me of how just 41 years ago I saw Helen walk across the clinic floor at dental school. My heart skipped a beat then and still does every time I see her.

Helen and I have been blessed over the years. We have had wonderful parents, who I wish could have shared this award luncheon with us—they would have been proud. I remember how pleased I was a couple years ago to see Rhys' parents in the audience when he gave his presidential address. I know they were proud, as we were, of him. We need to do more of that. My father was an Irish immigrant who came over to this country at the age of 18, found work, married a wonderful person, and raised four children, all of whom graduated from college—a re-

markable success story that has been repeated by so many people in this country and probably in this room over the years.

Helen and I have four wonderful children, two of whom, Maureen, our oldest, and Mary Jo, our youngest, are with us today, and Michael and Margaret who could not be present, but are in our thoughts. They have been the "light of our life!" Never have the four of them given their mother or father the least bit of worry and we love them dearly. Our marriage has been a true partnership.

I would like to thank Myron Alukian, who originated the idea of this special luncheon and Skip Collins, Duskanka Kleinman, and Denise Fedele, who endorsed it and handled many of the details. A personal thanks also goes to Myron for his introduction and to Hermine McLeran, Marsha Cunningham, Gary Rozier, Steve Corbin, Skip Collins, and Rhys Jones for their comments and award presentation. They are people with whom Helen and I have worked very closely during the past 14 years and whom we have come to admire and respect. I

cannot let this opportunity pass without letting the association know of some of the contributions these people have made to the betterment of the association.

Myron, one of the true greats of this association, who is never too busy, however, to do the nice little things that mean so much. It was Myron, along with Tom Fields, who provided the leadership to get the association back on its "financial feet" during their presidencies. It was he who took over the leadership of the process to assure our continuation as one of the recognized specialties of dental public health by the American Dental Association. Myron, Helen and I will never forget the "high" of the moment we all felt when, as its last business of the day, the ADA House of Delegates voted to continue our specialty. Helen and I always will remember the many long but fun-filled strategy sessions of those years and the many "nice little things" that Myron has done for us and others over the years.

Hermine, because of unforeseen events, organized not one but three of our annual meetings. She also was