

Victor A. Baylon, MD, Scholarship Fund



Carol and Victor A. Baylon, MD

Doctor Victor A. Baylon, a pathologist at All Saints Hospital in Racine from 1963 until his death in 1995, said “good morning” to the laboratory staff each and every day. He started each day with that show of respect for his “girls,” as he fondly called the staff, and continued to exemplify integrity and respect for all throughout his career. According to his staff, he “set the bar” for other physicians.

“When one physician came to the lab complaining to members of the staff in an unprofessional manner, Dr. Baylon set the physician straight in his quiet yet assertive manner, making sure the physician received his warning—“no one yells at my lab staff,” noted his second shift crew. “We were more than staff. He treated us all like family. He created an atmosphere of respect in the lab and modeled this for others throughout All Saints Hospital.”

Doctor Baylon’s style of caring was often quiet, yet very effective. He would insist that staff look at the lungs of a smoker or an alcoholic’s liver and tell them how much he hoped they did not smoke or drink heavily because this could happen to them. When a girl was killed as a result of not wearing a seatbelt, he implored that they be sure to always wear their seatbelts because he never wanted to see them like this young girl. The messages were delivered with compassion and accepted as a demonstration of how much he cared about the people in his life.

Carol Baylon often joked that staff at All Saints saw her husband much more than she did. They met in 1955 at Deaconess Hospital in Milwaukee when Dr. Baylon was an intern and Mrs. Baylon was a nurse. They married in 1958 in the hospital chapel. Like



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many medical couples of the generation, Mrs. Baylon cared for their home and three children while Dr. Baylon worked long hours at the hospital, served on numerous professional committees, and continued to advance his education. As a result, the list of accomplishments during Dr. Baylon's tenure at All Saints is long.

Described by staff and his successor as a brilliant man with an incredible memory, Dr. Baylon enthusiastically embraced new technology. All Saints Lab (at that time, St. Mary's Lab) was the first lab in Wisconsin to purchase a Coulter Counter, a medical apparatus for counting and sizing cells. He served as Chief of Staff at All Saints, a position rarely held by a pathologist. Education was a priority for Dr. Baylon and he made time every week to review clinical correlations with Clinical Laboratory Science students. He mentored young physicians directly and by example. He loved to golf, and used his time on the course to get feedback from physicians in other departments to assess how he could improve support from his lab. He helped establish the hospital's Medical Technologist program (Clinical Laboratory Science), and helped recruit foreign students to give them an opportunity.

Doctor Baylon lost his brief battle with an aggressive form of cancer in 1995. After his death, his wife, Carol, his friends and the staff at All Saints Lab responded to this tremendous loss by establishing the Victor A. Baylon, MD, Scholarship Endowment. Many continue to add to the endowment annually to honor Dr. Baylon's passion for continuing improvement in the quality of medical services. The purpose of this memorial scholarship is to assist medical students, medical technologists and clinical laboratory scientists from Racine and Milwaukee Counties who show promise of continuing Dr. Baylon's inspiring legacy.