



## **KENNETH E. MOOSLIN, M.D.**

### **1923-1999**

On Monday, August 9, 1999, Humboldt County lost one of its finest physicians, following a massive C.V.A. He was someone who quietly contributed much to our community and to our medical society in many ways.

Ken was born in Alameda, CA on July 7, 1923 and moved to San Francisco at an early age. Ken's father, Eugene John Mooslin, had immigrated from Ukraine, Russia, with his family. In the early 1900s. Ken's father became a lawyer and practiced law in San Francisco for many years. His uncles were also professionals, one a general practitioner, two attorneys. Ken graduated from Balboa High School in San Francisco, received an A.B. in 1944 from U. C. Berkeley, and his M.D. in 1946 from the U. S. Medical School in San Francisco. While in medical school he served in the U. S. Army A.S.T.P. Program.

After graduation he served an internship in surgery at the Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco, followed by eighteen months as a resident in Urology at the Veterans Administration Miley Hospital in San Francisco. This was interrupted by a return to the Army as a Captain and Chief of the Urology Department for three years at Camp Roberts near Monterey. After being discharged from the Army he returned to UCSF to complete urological training. He was a member of the Northern California Urological Society and the San Francisco County Medical Society. In 1954, his urological training completed, Ken, Betty and their two sons, Craig and Gary, moved to Eureka. He was associated with Stan Schmidt in private practice in urology, becoming the second urologist in the North Coast.

I had the pleasure to getting to know Ken almost from the day he arrived in Eureka, and was happy to nominate him for membership in our medical society in 1954. The forty-five years that Ken was a member of the Society he served on many committees and particularly in many community activities. The most worthy of mentioning were his coordinating a group of physicians to do free physicals each year for boys participating in scouting, Little League baseball and Pops football.

The second was involvement in the Poliomyelitis Immunization Program in 1959. He convinced the medical society members that we should join with the local chapter of the Poliomyelitis Foundation and the local P.T.A. to set up low cost clinics in an all-out effort to eliminate poliomyelitis on our north coast. The program consisted of clinics, set up throughout the county in July, August and February 1960, staffed by society physicians, as a cost of \$1.00 per person to help defray the cost of the vaccine. The program was a huge success and even generated a small surplus which was donated to the Medical Society's Nursing Scholarship program.

In 1957, the Society decided to start a Bulletin to keep our members better informed. Again, Ken was very much involved from the inception and served on the Publications Committee serving as

the associate editor during 1957 and 1958. In 1959, he became the editor. Some of the editorials he wrote during 1959, such as “the Rising Cost of Apathy”, “C.M.A. Again Leads the Way”, “E = DPE/LW” were timely for 1959 and in many ways apply to the problems we face today in the practice of medicine.

Many of us in the Medical Society urged Ken to run for office in the society. He always refused stating that most of his spare time was dedicated to Betty, Gary, Craig, the Boy Scouts and other activities. In deed, there were other activities. He had been an Eagle Scout in San Francisco and on arriving in Eureka, immediately became involved in scouting activities. He served as President of the Redwood- Empire Boy Scouts Council in 1967. He was awarded the Silver Bear Award, the highest honor from the Boy Scouts of America, for his services. He was a Hunter Safety instructor for many years. He and his wife and sons were avid trap and skeet shooting enthusiast. He was a past president of the local Trap & Skeet Club. He was an excellent photographer and processed his film in his own dark room. He loved pets which included a monkey, birds, dogs, cats and fish. He loved camping, fishing, and hunting with his family. He also played the organ and was the chess champion at Balboa High School in San Francisco in 1941.

Ken retired from active practice in 1985 at the age of 62 because of health programs. He had inherited diabetes from his mother and developed hypertensive cardiovascular disease with complications, which forced an early retirement. Despite his health problems, he and Betty continued to participate in many local activities and were always available when needed. My last contact with Ken was on Sunday, August 8, 1999. We were attending the 50th wedding anniversary of two old friends at the Fortuna River Walk Center. Ken, Betty, Ruth and I decided to leave the party a little early so we walked out to the parking lot together. I will always remember how pleased Ken was to see so many of his old patients, and physician friends again. Ken was a person of great character, endowed with thoughtfulness, selflessness, wisdom and a great sense of humor. He was a compassionate, caring physician who in his own quiet and unassuming way has left an indelible mark on Humboldt County.

*Written by Theodore Loring, M. D.*