



HERBERT T. SHILLINGBURG, JR., D.D.S.

March 21, 1938-July 12, 2015

After a dramatic decline in health over the past few months, Dr. Shillingburg peacefully passed away on Sunday, July 12, 2015. Dr. Shillingburg will always be highly regarded for his contributions to the art and science of Fixed Prosthodontics as an author, lecturer, teacher and clinician. His rich and colorful life and many accomplishments will be celebrated during a memorial service at the end of summer.

Herbert Thompson Shillingburg, Jr. was born on March 21, 1938 on the Navajo Reservation in Ganado, Arizona, approximately 50 miles northwest of Gallup, New Mexico. He spent the first several years of his life living on the reservation where his father ran an Indian Trading Post. The family then moved to a number of other locations before settling in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where a young Herbert Shillingburg completed junior high school, high school and three years at the University of New Mexico. He left UNM in 1958 to attend the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. During his time at UNM, he met the love of his life, Constance Murphy, and they were married after his second year of dental school.

Dr. Shillingburg received his D.D.S. from USC in 1962. After serving the in U.S. Army Corps and practicing in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he joined the dental faculty at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1967 where he began his academic career in Crown and Bridge. In 1972, Dr. Shillingburg moved to Oklahoma to serve as a charter faculty member of the new College of Dentistry at the University of Oklahoma. This provided him an opportunity to design a program based on the curriculum at UCLA with the emphasis on the clinical skills he learned at USC. Dr. Shillingburg served as chair of the Department of Fixed Prosthodontics until his retirement in 2003.

In 1972, Dr. Shillingburg began writing a series of student handouts which ultimately became *Fundamentals of Fixed Prosthodontics*, first published in 1976; the fourth edition was published in 2012. Dr. Shillingburg authored other textbooks including: *Guide to Occlusal Waxing* (1984), *Restoration of the Endodontically Treated Tooth* (1984) and *Fundamentals of Tooth Preparations* (1987).

Dr. Shillingburg was a David Ross Boyd Professor Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry and received the Stephen L. Leper Award for Teaching Excellence from the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Supreme Chapter in 2000.