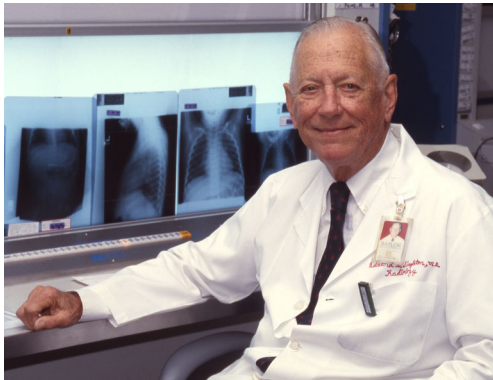


Dr. Edward B. Singleton (1920–2015)

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Dr. Edward B. Singleton was a special person, not because he was the first credentialed physician at Texas Children's Hospital in 1953, nor because he was one of the founding members of our Society for Pediatric Radiology, but because he was a gentle, considerate, kind human being. Dr. Singleton left this world peacefully on Jan. 10, 2015, at the age of 94. Ed was one of those rare individuals who spent his entire career at one institution — Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, TX. Ed has left behind a legacy that will never be duplicated.

Ed was born in the upstairs bedroom of his family home in Galveston, TX, in 1920, to Dr. Albert Olin Singleton (a busy surgeon) and Will Dean Bivens. Ed was very proud of having been “B.O.I.” (born on island) — a label reserved for native

Galvestonians. A self-described “Mr. Nerd,” Ed attended the University of Texas in Austin for undergraduate school at the age of 16. After graduation in 1941, Ed was accepted into medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. After a year, Ed's father was disenchanted with the dean and encouraged him to attend the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, where he was accepted for his sophomore year. Midway into his year he contracted tuberculosis and dropped out, but he picked back up in Galveston 8 months later and graduated in 1946.

Upon completion of medical school and out of his concern about limitations in becoming a surgeon with tuberculosis, Ed decided on a career in radiology. He trained at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and was profoundly influenced by one of his early mentors, Dr. Jack Holt. After completion of his residency Ed passed the board exams and began looking for a position. He heard that two new hospitals were being built in Houston (actually, they were initially combined as one facility) — St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital and Texas Children's Hospital. He accepted the position as chief of the St. Luke's/Texas Children's Hospital in 1953, for a salary of \$1,000/month. When the hospital opened, the entire staff consisted of 12 people.

In 1957, Ed attended the first meeting of the Society for Pediatric Radiology at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Dr. John Caffey was made an honorary member (he had no formal training in pediatric radiology), and Dr. Ed Neuhauser served as the first president.

In 1967, Ed married Margaret Ann and began a 40-year journey. They had two children, Ann and Scott, who are living today in Houston and Dallas, respectively. In 2007, Margaret Ann passed away, and Ed has spent the last 8 years missing his beloved “princess.” Ed is also survived by his son, Dean, from an earlier marriage.

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On a professional level, Dr. Singleton was appointed as a clinical professor at the University of Texas in Houston and professor of radiology at Baylor College of Medicine. He authored or co-authored more than 130 scientific manuscripts, 14 book chapters, and 3 textbooks (two with co-authors Milt Wagner and Bob Dutton). He has served as president of the Houston Radiologic Society, the Society for Pediatric Radiology and the Society of Gastrointestinal Radiology. In addition, he has served as vice president of the American Roentgen Ray Society and the Radiological Society of North America.

Amazingly, Dr. Singleton has received gold medals (considered the highest honor for a society) from the Texas Radiological Society, the American Roentgen Ray Society, the Radiological Society of North America, the Society for Pediatric Radiology, and the American College of Radiology. It is unlikely that any radiologist has or will ever again acquire this

many gold medals. In addition, the highest honor that the Society of Gastrointestinal Radiology bestows is the Walter B. Cannon Medal, and Dr. Singleton was awarded this medal, as well.

One last thing to appreciate about Ed is his dedication to teaching. Although he retired as chief of the department at the age of 75, within 2 months he returned to Texas Children's Hospital looking for a staff position where he could interact with residents. He missed teaching and contributing to the care of patients. Needless to say, he was welcomed back with open arms and worked full-time until he was hospitalized just a few weeks before his death. At Texas Children's Hospital we have lost an icon and a pillar for our subspecialty of pediatric radiology. We will miss him.

Conflicts of interest None