In Memoriam

Radiation Oncologist and former ABR Trustee David H. Hussey, MD, 75, of Georgetown, Texas, passed away on Wednesday, April 19, 2013.

Dr. Hussey was born in Savanna, Illinois, the son of a general practice physician. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Beloit College in Wisconsin in 1959; attended graduate school in biophysics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, for one year before going to medical school; and graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1964. Dr. Hussey completed a general radiology residency at the University of Iowa (1965 -1968), which led to a fellowship in radiation oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute (Houston) from 1968 to 1969. He received his certification in general radiology in June 1969 and was recertified in radiation oncology in 1999.

Dr. Hussey’s distinguished career began with an appointment to the faculty at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute (1969-1983), where he was ultimately named professor with tenure. In 1984, he began private practice at St. Paul’s Hospital and Methodist Hospital in Dallas, Texas, but in 1985 moved to become professor and head of the Division of Radiation Oncology at the University of Iowa. He was director of that program until 2000.

While serving on the American Board of Radiology (ABR) Board of Trustees, Dr. Hussey then spent a year of sabbatical leave in the office of the ABR in Tucson, Arizona, where he worked on programs to develop interactive computerized case-management examinations. His activities with the ABR were directed toward the appropriate and proper examination for head and neck cancers in the written and oral examinations, but with major input into other examination categories as well. This work paved the way for the further development of the software system that is now being employed for the new diagnostic radiology Core Examination, the Certifying Examination, and the MOC Examinations. He also served on the ABR Executive Committee and the Electronic Testing Committee and as the chairman of the Building Committee for the new ABR offices in Tucson. Subsequently, he accepted a position as professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 2001.

Dr. Hussey’s contributions and leadership in the field of radiation oncology have been demonstrated by his extensive involvement in multiple national organizations, including serving as a trustee for the ABR. He also was president of the Gilbert H. Fletcher Society, president of the American Radium Society (ARS), president of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), and president of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA). He also worked in the Residency Review Committee for Radiation Oncology, the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons, the Inter-Society
Council for Radiation Oncology, the Society for Chairmen of Academic Radiation Oncology Programs, and the American College of Radiology (ACR) Commission on Radiation Oncology, as well as the ACR In-Service Examination Committee. He was an active leader in the Committee for Radiation Oncology Studies and the American Board of Medical Specialists (ABMS).

Dr. Hussey was a highly respected, internationally recognized authority in radiation oncology. His status and reputation are clearly demonstrated by his bibliography, which includes more than 38 chapters in books by leading authorities in radiation oncology, as well as more than 180 articles published in peer-reviewed journals. He delivered a large number of invited lectures throughout the entire North American community, as well as abroad. Dr. Hussey is survived by his wife Miriam and three sons.