

IN REMEMBRANCE

Duane K. Rorie, M.D., Ph.D.

STEPHEN W. CARMICHAEL*

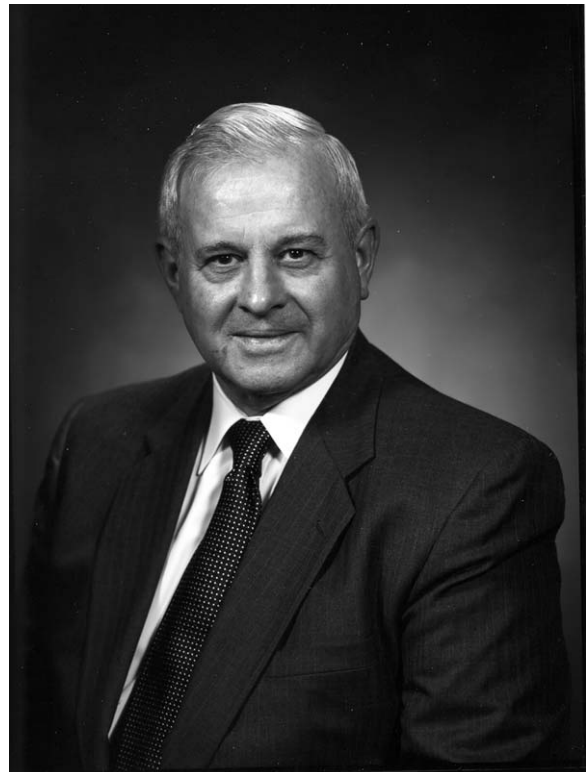
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Duane Rorie was born in 1936, a native of Arkansas. He received a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Science (Zoology), and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. degree in Anatomy from the University of Mississippi. He was trained in Internal Medicine and Anesthesiology at the Mayo Clinic. Duane would go on to have an accomplished career as an anesthesiologist, serving as Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at Mayo Clinic from 1990 to 1999. However, he never left his roots as an anatomist. He conducted many classic studies on the functional anatomy of regional anesthesia; for example, the definitive description of the sheath of the brachial plexus and its clinical implications.

When Mayo Medical School was established in the early 1970s, Gross Anatomy was a third year elective. Duane was put in charge of that course and remained the director until Gross Anatomy was made a required course for first year students in the early 1980s. At that time, Don Cahill and I were recruited to teach this new course and Duane returned to full-time clinical practice, an active research program funded by NIH, and administrative duties.

When a Procedural Skills Laboratory was established at Mayo Clinic in 2000, Duane became its first Medical Director. This laboratory has provided realistic training opportunities for countless residents and opportunities for many of the Mayo staff to develop new and innovative procedures without any risk to patients.

Duane died in February 2014. It is clear from his many accomplishments in anesthesiology and in our field, both in research and education, that he was a consummate clinical anatomist.



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