

THE FRED C. WILLIAMS, M.D. MEMORIAL LECTURE

HISTORY: Dr. Fred C. Williams, who was not a graduate of the UC program, first met Dr. Cordes and the UC faculty (as Lt. Col. Fred C. Williams, M.D.) while stationed with the US Army at Fort Ord, near Monterey, CA. He attended the rounds of Dr. Cordes and knew him before 1959, when Dr. Cordes retired.

Dr. Williams began his Army career as a fully trained Eye Specialist as well as a trained Ear, Nose and Throat specialist. During his Korean War rotation as an Army Ophthalmologist in Tokyo, he gained tremendous experience with facial, head and neck and ocular trauma. He became acquainted with many of the top eye surgeons in Japan including Dr. Sato, an early pioneer of Refractive Keratotomy and Dr. Nakaizumi, who later had a son in fellowship training at UCSF. Dr. Williams was one of the early faculty connections to the Japanese ophthalmic community so tightly affiliated with UCSF today.



Military assignments kept him moving around the world, but in 1964 he returned to San Francisco as the Director of Ophthalmology for Letterman Army Medical Center in the Presidio. At that time he also became an integral part of the residency teaching program at UCSF, serving as a Clinical Instructor and regularly attending Grand Rounds.

Dr. Williams' experience in trauma and lid reconstruction was of great value to the UC residents in rotation at San Francisco General Hospital, where he developed a close friendship with Dr. Crowell Beard and other faculty members.

He retired from military service in 1969 and began private practice in Ophthalmology at the Franklin Hospital (now CPMC at Davies campus). He enjoyed all aspects of Ophthalmology, and was equally comfortable performing surgery for congenital glaucoma, cataract, and lid reconstruction or orbital tumor.

Many years' worth of residents remembers his cheerful availability and equanimity when called to assist with any type of emergency at all hours and on weekends. He served the UC Department of Ophthalmology in this capacity for more than 25 years, retiring in the early 1990's for health reasons.

Syd Williams

ROSTER OF WILLIAMS LECTURERS

2001	David Chang
2002	Jack Witcher
2003	Gary Aguilar
2004	Syd Williams
2005	G. Richard O'Connor

2006
2007
2008
2009
2010

Earl Rathbun
Rich McDonald
Roger Martin
Daniel Goodman
William Good