

Ross Crist receives 2020 Shepard Award

The MSO Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award was created in 1987 to honor Dr. Shepard and recognize those orthodontists who perform



service to mankind in a combination of service to orthodontics and service in other areas of dentistry and/or their state or local community. Dr. Ross L. Crist of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was unanimously selected by the Board of Directors as the recipient of the 2020 MSO Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award.

Ross has been involved in education, organized dentistry and orthodontics and community organizations for all of his adult life.

Ross was born in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and attended the University of Nebraska for both his undergraduate and dental education, receiving his DDS in 1981. After graduation, he practiced general dentistry in Torrington, Wyoming and in 1990 went back to the University of Nebraska Medical Center where he was the director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program.

In 1993, he received an MA in Business Management from Bellevue University and just a few months later he started his orthodontic residency at West Virginia University in Morgantown, finishing in 1996. He returned to the Midwest and set up his orthodontic practice in Sioux Falls.

While building his general practice, he continued to serve his profession and his community. From 1990 to 2019 he held teaching responsibilities at both the University of Nebraska and Creighton University. He received numerous awards while a dental student as well as during his time in general practice. He was a member of the Wyoming Dental Association and the Nebraska Dental Association and served on several committees in both organizations. He was also involved in both the Wyoming Academy of General Dentistry and the Nebraska Academy of General Dentistry.

In the late 1990s, he became involved with the South Dakota Society of Orthodontists, serving as an officer from 2002-2009. As an officer in the SDSO, he served as the director from South Dakota to the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists and was elected as MSO secretary/treasurer in 2010 and served as president from 2012-2013. From 2007 to 2018, he served on the MSO delegation to the AAO House of Delegates numerous times and had leadership roles several times as MSO Delegation Vice Chair and Delegation Chair.

He served on numerous AAO House of Delegates committees and task forces and from 2016-2019, Ross served as MSO's representative to the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation. Ross also was a member of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics and is board certificated by the American Board of Orthodontics.

During his professional career, Ross served on several eclectic committees such as Pathology/Morgue SOP Forensics Committee - Lancaster County, State of Nebraska HIV Technical Advisory Committee, Geriatric Focus Group Committee and AADS Tobacco Free Steering Committee.

Ross served on numerous committees, gave numerous presentations and also had several publications as part of his professional life. But his list of community organizations that he volunteered for is also most extensive. He was involved with the Knights of Columbus for almost 40 years, serving in a number of capacities and served on both the Chambers of Commerce in Goshen County, Wyoming and the Chamber of Commerce, Sioux Falls for a total of three decades. He served as a volunteer with the Boy Scouts, American Cancer Society and United Way, among others.

He is married to Lisa, a dental hygienist, and has two children, Austin and Jace. Congratulations, Ross, on receiving this most deserving honor and for your service to your community, dentistry and orthodontics.