

Kanyusik to receive 2015 Shepard Distinguished Service Award

The Midwestern Society of Orthodontists proudly announces that Dr. John Kanyusik is the recipient of the 2015 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes a member of the MSO who exemplifies the ideals of the orthodontic profession, community and family.



Dr. Kanyusik was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in northern Minnesota and California. He received his DDS from the University of Minnesota in 1970 and graduated from Minnesota's Orthodontic program in 1972. Dr. Robert Isaacson was the program chair at that time and John and his classmates were greatly influenced by Isaacson's strong leadership and commitment to evidenced-based practice.

Following graduation John served in the USAF in Tachikawa, Japan and was able to travel extensively in the Far East. As his time in Air Force neared completion, his future wife, Carolyn, suggested that they meet in Europe and travel

before going back home. Together they spent three months as travel bums and after 40-plus years, they are still enjoying the journey.

While serving in Japan, John was contacted by Drs. Powers and Germundson in Mankato, Minnesota and was offered a position that he accepted in 1975. John and Carolyn have lived in Mankato since and have raised their four children there. He currently practices with Drs. Carlin Wiemers, Tim Swanson and Chris Vaubel at Southern Minnesota Orthodontics.

Early in his career John found Drs. Jim Gjerset, Roger Fredsall and Arnie Hill to be great mentors and examples in finding ways to give back to the orthodontic profession. John has served as on the Boards and as president of the Minnesota Association of Orthodontists (MAO) and the MSO. He has served on the MSO delegation to the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) House since 2005, as chair on the AAO Council on Membership Ethics and Judicial Concerns and on numerous AAO and AAOF committees. He served as Staff Program Co-chair for the 2003 AAO Annual Session in Hawaii and as the general chair and scientific chair at numerous orthodontic meetings. He will serve as General Chair of the 2019 AAO meeting in Los Angeles. He has lectured at numerous orthodontic programs and meetings, both nationally and internationally.

John has been active in the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics (CDABO) since receiving his board certification in 1984. His involvement began when he helped develop the early courses offered by the College to encourage American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) certification in 1985. In 1992 John was elected to the CDABO Council and served as CDABO President at the 2001 Sun Valley meeting. He continues to serve on the ABO/CDABO Resident Advocacy Committee as its co-chair and on the CDABO Foundation Board. John was ABO recertified in 2001 and has served as an ABO Phase III Examination Consultant since 2002.

John is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and has received service awards from the MAO, CDABO and ABO. Since 2002 he has taught part-time at the University of Minnesota's Department of Orthodontics.

John and Carolyn are involved in many Mankato organizations including ECHO, the area food shelf, Habitat of Humanity, YMCA, United Way, local trail projects and their church.

For several years John has been active with Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO), an organization that places volunteers in schools where one can teach the local educators and then those educators teach their students after the volunteer leaves. John has taught with HVO in Vietnam, Tanzania, Moldova, Nicaragua and, soon, in Nepal. You may occasionally hear his voice as he currently is a reviewer on the AAO *Oakstone* literature reviews.

For recreation John enjoys running, racquetball, reading, biking and traveling with Carolyn and their four kids. He and Carolyn are excited and busy as first-time grandparents to their grandson, born in January.

Congratulations, John, on receiving this well-deserved honor and for your service to your community, dentistry and orthodontics.