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Inventory of the Lenox D. Baker Papers, 1930 - 1976

Lenox D. Baker graduated as part of Duke University School of Medicine's first graduating class in 1932. He came back to Duke in 1937 and became the chief of the Division of Orthopaedics, a position he held until 1967. He helped establish the North Carolina Cerebral Palsy Hospital and served as its medical director until 1972. Dr. Baker was a founding member and later president of the North Carolina Orthopaedic Association.

Descriptive Summary

Collection Title: Lenox D. Baker Papers, 1930 - 1976

Creator: Baker, Lenox D.

Extent: 14 linear feet 28 boxes

Processed By:

Date Completed:

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Biographical Note

Dr. Lenox D. Baker was born in DeKalb, Tex., in 1902. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee in 1929, and graduated as part of Duke University School of Medicine's first graduating class in 1932. Dr. Baker married Virginia Flowers, the daughter of the President of Duke University, and later returned to Duke in 1937 as an Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. He came back to Duke in 1937 and became the chief of the Division of Orthopaedics, and established the Duke University Medical Center Orthopaedic and Affiliated Institutions Training Program in 1938. Dr. Baker helped establish the North Carolina Cerebral Palsy Hospital, which originally was on Duke-owned property but was built with state funds. He served as medical director at the Cerebral Palsy Hospital until his retirement in 1972. Prior to his retirement, the hospital was renamed the Lenox Baker Children's Hospital. In addition to his academic achievements, Dr. Baker was the team physician for Duke sports activities for thirty years and was inaugurated into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of his contributions.

Dr. Baker was involved in outlying state orthopaedic clinics and continued this involvement throughout his career. He was also active in numerous state and national organizations. He was a founder and president of the North Carolina Orthopaedic Association, and was active in the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy, for whom he also served as president. Dr. Baker was elected President of the American Orthopaedic Association in 1964.

Dr. Baker was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus by Duke University and the Medical Center named him as an outstanding alumnus and teacher. He initiated the fund-raising for the Virginia Flowers Baker Distinguished Professor Chair, which was activated in 1988. After his retirement from Duke, Dr. Baker directed his energies toward the North Carolina State Health Department and became the secretary of the State Department of Human Resources.

Dr. Baker died in 1995.

The Lenox D. Baker papers contains Baker's administrative and personal papers and correspondence. Types of materials include photographs, correspondence, and newspaper clippings.

Online Catalog Headings

Baker, Lenox D.

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

American Orthopaedic Association.

Inventory of the Lenox D. Baker Papers, 1930 - 1976

Orthopedics.

Duke University. Medical Center. Division of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Inventory of the Lenox D. Baker Papers, 1930 - 1976

Container List

1. Administrative and Personal Papers, 1930-1976.

This series contains the administrative correspondence and papers for Dr. Baker in connection with his work as Chief of Orthopaedics at Duke along with his work at the Cerebral Palsy museum, his work at various clinics, and his work with professional societies.

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