IN MEMORIAM

CHARLES A. WALTON

The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy, along with the profession of pharmacy itself, lost one of its greatest leaders and visionaries on July 31, 2014, when Dr. Charles (Charlie) A. Walton, William J. Sheffield Professor Emeritus of Pharmacy, died. Dr. Walton, who was born in Alabama in 1926, earned a B. S. in Pharmacy from Auburn University in 1949 and an M.S. (1950) and Ph.D. (1956) in Pharmacology from Purdue University. He practiced pharmacy in both community and hospital environments before opening the first drug information center in the country at the University of Kentucky in the early 1960s. Dr. Walton was on the faculty at the University of Kentucky (UK) for twenty-two years before moving to The University of Texas at Austin.

While at UK, Dr. Walton twice received the University’s Great Teacher Award, and he served as Chairman of the Pharmacy Doctorate Committee before moving to the UK College of Dentistry. Dr. Walton was instrumental in starting the Pharm.D. program at Kentucky, along with Dr. Paul Parker, Director of Pharmacy at the University of Kentucky Hospital. These two men created a clinical pharmacy training program unparalleled by any in the country. The Post-Baccalaureate in Pharmacy Program required three years, combining the Pharm.D. degree with a residency.

In 1973, Dr. Walton followed the newly named Dean, James T. Doluisio to The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy. Dr. Walton provided the leadership to establish the UT Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program jointly with the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio (UTHSCSA), the first joint-degree program between two universities in the
UT System. The first-year curriculum consisted of courses in pathophysiology and clinical medicine that the Pharm.D. students took with medical students, and pharmacy faculty taught courses in pharmacotherapy and pharmacokinetics. The second year consisted of twelve months of clerkships in medicine, pediatrics, ambulatory care, psychiatry, drug information, and related areas. The third year focused on specialized clinical practice and included a research project. The graduates of this innovative program went on to achieve national and international recognition, including a number who eventually became Deans of Pharmacy. In many respects, Dr. Walton’s leadership in starting and developing the joint Pharm.D. program is largely responsible for the UT Austin College of Pharmacy’s reputation rising to be ranked the number two College of Pharmacy nationally by *U.S. News and World Report*.

In 1983, Dr. Walton was appointed the William J. Sheffield Professor of Pharmacy. He retired in 1992 and returned to his native Alabama. An Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Pharmacy, funded by former students who loved and admired him, is named in his honor at UT Austin.

Dr. Walton had many professional accomplishments. He served as a founding member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, including a term on the first Board of Regents (circa 1979). In 1984, he was presented with the ACCP Distinguished Service Award, and in 1987, he was named the first American College of Clinical Pharmacology (ACCP) Honorary Fellow. In 1996, he was awarded the ACCP Paul F. Parker Medal, an honor recognizing an individual who made outstanding and sustained contributions to the profession that improved healthcare delivery, created innovative practices, positively affected populations of patients, and advanced the professional role of pharmacists or elevated the recognition of pharmacists as health professionals. When Dr. Walton received the Parker Medal, Dean Emeritus James T. Doluisio said, “The clinical
programs developed in San Antonio by Charlie were exceptional. The basic concepts and recruitment of outstanding faculty were due to his persuasive leadership. To this day I marvel at the recruitment of exceptional individuals that owe their impressive careers to Charlie’s vision and guidance.”

Dr. Walton served as a member of the Board of Directors for the AACP, as Co-Chair of the AACP Commission to Implement Change in Pharmaceutical Education, and as Chair of the AACP Academic Affairs Committee. He served on the Board of Regents of the AACP, was Chair of its Committee on Drug Information Services, and in 1987, received AACP’s Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award. He was also a member of the Commission on Goals for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Licensure Examination of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and Vice President and member of the board of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (now the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education - ACPE). In 1989, he received Purdue’s Distinguished Alumni Award, and he was the recipient of the UT Austin College of Pharmacy’s Legend of Pharmacy Award in 1999.

Dr. Walton had both enlisted and commissioned officer military service and held the rank of Colonel, Field Artillery, United States Army Reserve (retired). He was a 1964-65 Fulbright Professor at the University of Cairo, Egypt. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, of Titus, Alabama, and by two sons, Charles A. and Kendall M. Walton.

Charlie did many great things for The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy, including helping to make it one of the best Colleges of Pharmacy in the world. He was an internationally recognized leader in pharmaceutical education, an innovator beyond compare, and a mentor to many. He is missed and loved by all who had the honor of knowing him.
This memorial resolution was prepared by Dean M. Lynn Crismon, UT College of Pharmacy.