

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT CITATION

Dr. Ralph G. Meader
Class of 1925

Dr. Ralph G. Meader has touched the lives of countless cancer patients who will never know him. His colleagues, however, accord him worldwide recognition for his efforts to coalesce diverse elements of the international scientific community in the battle against cancer.

As Chief of the Research Grants Branch of the National Cancer Institute, Dr. Meader planned and developed a national program of grant reviews for research and construction of research facilities. Created by an act of Congress, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) was the first federal agency with authority to approve grants for cancer research on an international level. While developing policies and implementing programs during his seventeen-year administrative stay at NCI, Dr. Meader presided over a 700% increase in the Institute's research grants program.

Dr. Meader graduate magna cum laude from Ohio Wesleyan in 1925, and holds a master's degree from Hamilton College and a doctorate in neuron-anatomy from Yale University. For 23 years he served on the faculties of various institutions, including the Yale University Medical School. His tenure at NCI was prefaced and followed by a position as "special consultant" to the Institute. Upon leaving NCI, Dr. Meader became deputy Director of Research Administration at Massachusetts General Hospital.

In 1959, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare bestowed its Superior Service Award upon Dr. Meader for his role in the development of a national cancer research program. He has also received other honors, including fellowships from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Blossom fund, and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has received honorary degrees from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy, and Ohio Wesleyan. The author of numerous papers and articles, Dr. Meader is a member of many medical and technical societies. His positions of volunteer leadership include, among many others, presiding over the Board of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center for Mental Retardation, and assisting with administration of the Jan Coffin Childs Memorial fund for Medical Research, a cancer research foundation.

Dr. Meader has dedicated careful attention to the revision of research grant evaluation procedures, a vital element in the fight against cancer. He has also worked diligently to concentrate the resources of the world's scientists in efforts against the dreaded disease. His accomplishments in these areas will surely affect all of us at some point in our lives.

June 1984