

Alumni Award

Jackson E. Winters

Class of 1961

It is a pleasure to honor Jackson E. Winters with this 2011 Alumni Award for service to Ohio Wesleyan and his lifelong dedication to his alma mater.

Jack came to Ohio Wesleyan as a legacy. Both his father, Jay Winters, Class of 1926, and his uncle, Sonny Winters, Class of 1923, are members of the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame. At Ohio Wesleyan, Jack was a member of Phi Delta Theta and lettered in golf four times.

After graduation, Jack earned his D.D.S. at Ohio State and later served a pediatric dental residency at St. Christopher's Hospital/Temple University. From 1965 to 1967, he was a Captain and Dental Officer at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in Plattsburgh, New York. He was also captain of the 1967 Eighth Air Force Golf Team. From 1968 to 1978, he was president of Spragg, Winters and Kane Dentistry, Inc., in Findlay, Ohio, and since 1980 has been president of Findlay Pediatric Dentists, Inc.

Dr. Winters is a member of the American Dental Association, the Ohio Dental Association, and a Fellow and past president of the Academy for Sports Dentistry, of which he was the Most Distinguished member in 2006. He also has been the organization's representative to the Joint Commission of Sports Medicine and Science, and he has written widely on sports-related concussions, a topic that is receiving more and more attention in the sports world.

Jack has a second life, and he brings a unique set of experiences to his role as an active volunteer and advisor to Ohio Wesleyan's leadership, especially to our Athletic Directors. For 45 years, he has been a registered football official for the Ohio High School Athletic Association, and for 28 years, he has served as an NCAA football official, 20 of those years in the mid-American Conference. He has officiated American football in North America, Europe, China and Australia. He is currently a scout for football officials for the NFL and an observer of basketball officials for the Mid-American Conference. Jack is a regular fixture in the press box at Ohio Wesleyan football games and in the stands at basketball games. In 2003, he was inducted into the Findlay/Hancock County Sports Hall of Fame.

In spite of a busy and demanding life, Jack has found plenty of time to serve his alma mater. He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta House Corporation for seven years and has served on this year's 50th Reunion Committee. In honor of his roommate, golf teammate, and close friend, the late Rod Myers, Class of 1961, and his golf coach, Richard Gordin, Jack established the Rod Myers and Richard Gordin Golf Endowment. The Selby Stadium Winters Press Box is dedicated to the memory of Sonny and Jay Winters. Jack and his wife Nancy have played active roles as Ohio Wesleyan promoters in Findlay and Northwestern Ohio, hosting events and assisting in admissions and development activities. They can be seen on campus of many weekends during the school year. They "walk the walk" by generously providing their time, talents, and treasures to the college and alumni body that they hold so close to their hearts. Certainly, Ohio Wesleyan owes much to the generosity and vision of Jack Winters (and Nancy, too).

Today, we join Jack's reuniting classmates and his wife Nancy, in saluting, thanking, and applauding him for his service to Ohio Wesleyan University and as a valued member of the Ohio Wesleyan community.

May 14, 2011

