



THE UPPER CERVICAL
MONOGRAPH

COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

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Editorial

Board:

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It is a pleasure to commend Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. on behalf of the NUCCA Directive Board for his untiring efforts in preparing this (X-Ray Equipment Alignment) booklet for the National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association, Inc.

Rarely will an individual give so freely of his time and effort to benefit others. Seldom will one work so assiduously applying and testing principles and procedures that his profession may be advanced. His only reward is in the knowledge that he has done so well and accomplished so much.

This booklet symbolizes the spirit of NUCCA. As Dr. Dickholtz has given so freely, so NUCCA gives. It would be inconsistent with the spirit of NUCCA and the altruism of Dr. Dickholtz if this booklet were to be charged for. Therefore, we distribute it freely throughout the profession to help doctors of chiropractic and for the benefit of their patients -- another free service of NUCCA.

Personally, I deem it a privilege to count Dr. Dickholtz among my closest friends, and one of long standing. I compliment him, not only for this effort, but for his consistent willingness to sacrifice for others. This is an attribute which he consistently exhibits.

Ralph R. Gregory, D.C.,
President,
National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association, Inc.
(From booklet preface, *NUCCA X-Ray Equipment Alignment Protocol*, 1967)



Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. and Dr. Ralph R. Gregory
1966 First NUCCA Board Members

MARSHALL DICKHOLTZ, SR., D.C., F.I.C.A.



IN MEMORIAM

Most people who know me would say that I am not often at a loss for words. When it comes down to writing a summary of the immense unfailing vision, passion, and dedication that my dad had for chiropractic, I know my tribute to him will fall short.

He was born in 1923 and grew up in Chicago during the depression. He was raised in a tough neighborhood with a single mother who did everything possible to take care of her three sons and daughter. During that time in order to survive one had to become good at being inventive and overcoming obstacles.

As a teen he developed two fused wrists as he broke both of them in fights, always standing up for the little guy. It's

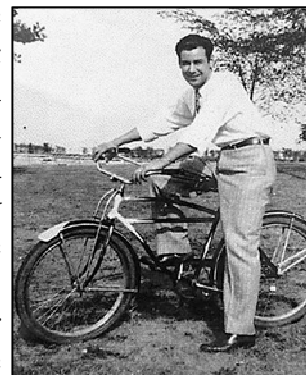


not that he was necessarily bigger or stronger than his opponents, but his commitment to help another was large enough to take on the challenge. That commitment to others to the point of self-sacrifice was always present throughout his life.

How it often occurred from my family's perspective, was any time of day or night or holiday when a patient needed care, he would go to the office to help that person get out of their crisis and back to health. Even when he was in his late 80's and his mother-in-law (my grandmother) was 98 years old and he went so far out of his way day or night to care for her at her home or nursing facility, to help her maintain her alignment. He knew her life depended on the C-1 correction, as her blood

pressure would drop over 100 points back toward her normal after her adjustment. When it came down to caring for the health of any individual, who a person was didn't matter. Color, creed, ethnicity, if they had a job or not, if they were homeless or a celebrity he knew they deserved and had the right to be in alignment and would do anything he could to have them get an adjustment, often at his own expense.

Through his 20's and early 30's, he worked as a machinist and a salesman, selling anything from hotdogs to televisions. He often credited what he learned as a machinist to working with extreme detail, which helped him in being consistent and masterful in x-ray analysis, figuring out the problems with torque and x-ray alignment issues and all the vital small details associated with the NUCCA work. He used to say any sales person to be good had to be enthusiastic about their product and that he was!



In 1953, he went to Little Rock Arkansas with Mary Ann to get married and together they rented a room to live from Dr. Tina Murphy, who was a dear friend of B.J. Palmer and one of the first doctors to use the Grostic upper cervical technique. She gave him his first spinal correction, where his chronic sinus problems and other health concerns that go hand in hand with a misaligned spine, went away. He experienced the difference that a C-1 correction could make. He saw his own future in Upper Cervical chiropractic, enrolled into Palmer College, and attended the Grostic seminars with Dr. John Grostic and Dr. Ralph Gregory.



In 1956, now with two children my sister Sherry and myself, he graduated from Palmer College and went back to Chicago to open up his first office. He always put in long hours that he dedicated to patient care, x-ray analysis and the development of his technique. He put a board and some blankets down in the backseat of the family car for all the times where my sister and I would be sleeping as our family drove back-and-forth to Monroe Michigan for week-end classes.

When Dr. Gregory formed The National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association my dad was one of the founding board of directors as well as with NUCCRA which is now the Upper Cervical Research Foundation. He remained an active board member on the UCRF including managing his own research projects, until a week of his passing.



I have memories of when he was home and we were sitting at the dinner table together, there was rarely a time where the topic of discussion at the table was anything other than the miracle of the day; a remarkable story of another person overcoming health issues that far exceeded anyone's expectations. My dad was so passionate and 100% committed to the results that a good cervical correction allowed the body to heal itself when in alignment. I knew so little about the typical medical model that most people were raised in. Outside of a trip to a medical doctor for stitches when I was about three years old and a school exam at 13, upper cervical care was the only thing I ever knew.



There were massive obstacles that he had to overcome to succeed in this practice. He had to solve troubles he had with his x-ray equipment because of torque in his X-ray tube column. The biggest problem he had to overcome was that both of his wrists were fused and lateral deviation of his wrists was impossible which affected how his entire shoulder carriage would move abnormally in order to complete the roll in. There was a point where Dr. Gregory even suggested that he may want to take up another line of work. But similar to the time when Michael Jordan didn't make the high school basketball team, the obstacles just

left my dad more determined than ever to be able to adjust well.

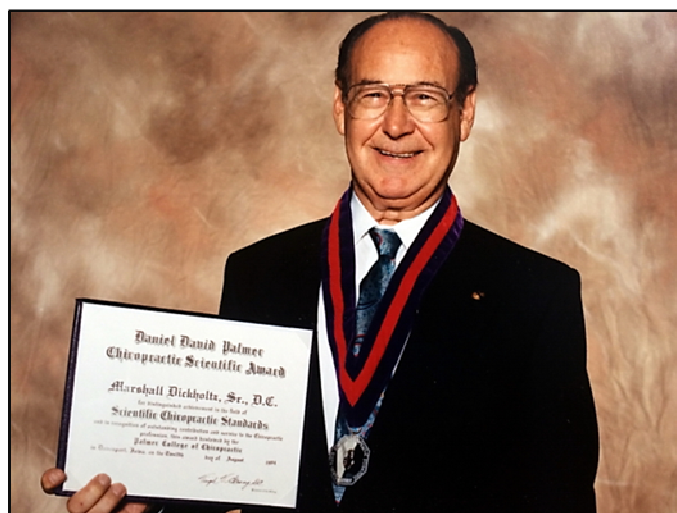
Most all the time what he thought about was adjusting and how to pull his triceps, examining what was the action of the shoulder girdle and how to perform it better. He would practice while driving the car, usually with at least one hand on the steering wheel while attempting to pull his triceps. I would see him, practicing around the house while walking around or sitting down. I'm sure there was rarely a night of his life where he wasn't lying in bed thinking about it with his arms raised practicing how to do it better. He kept working on his adjusting control even after he was forced to retire due to his failing health. Even a couple weeks prior to his death, while I was at his house, he said he had a new concept on how the triceps and shoulders can work together that would make adjusting more effective. He never gave up his passion to do better.



My father loved Dr. Gregory. He honored and respected the relationship and all that Dr. Gregory accomplished and stood for. The importance of the purity of the work and all that it could do for humanity. Dr. Gregory said the work will stand on its own and it was my dad's commitment to show the world its worth.

In recognition of his life's work, in 1994, he was presented with the David D. Palmer Scientific award medal. In 1995 he

received, the distinguished Ralph Gregory Achievement Award and the Achievement Award from the National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association. His major contribution to spinal care and research has been noted when he was awarded the Chiropractor of the year award, by the International Chiropractors association in 2006/07 and 2008. In 2007 he was given the National Upper Cervical Association Scientific Award. In 2008, he was elected to the Fellowship of the International Chiropractors Association F.I.C.A. He received the National Upper Cervical Association Clinical Research award in 2012.



Last October when he knew he was too weak to attend the NUCCA conference, he got very teary eyed because he still wanted to be there to contribute to the development of the doctors. He wanted the work to live on through our ability to get more students interested in the work and better train our doctors to improve their own abilities. Often he would talk about how ¼ of a degree, .007 of an inch could be the difference in a patient's recovery. We can't ever be too accurate.

In a very unique way he didn't operate from a belief in what the C-1 correction would do, he knew what it would do! There were times where I questioned his understanding in some critical patient or family health situations where the outcome

was bleak and he would be saying we've got to get them adjusted and even beyond my imagination the person would recover.

His peers describe him as a man who put passionate effort into life's purpose with his devotion and dedication to changing the lives of the patients he took care of in his 60 years of practice. He delivered care to over tens of thousands of patients. At his last attended NUCCA conference this past year, he received an emotional five-minute standing ovation.



My dad loved people and this work. He would often say, "for the sake of humanity, it must carry on."

-Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Jr.

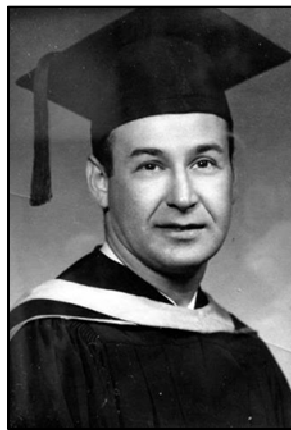


About My Dad, Dr. Marshall Dickholtz Sr.

I knew him for 60 years.

What I found so interesting about my dad was that his earlier life interests were perfect to support him in his chiropractic endeavors being one of a researcher, a developer, and a doctor.

My dad had a machinist background and had a desire to get into medicine. It was divine guidance that he and my mother met Dr. Tina Murphy in Little Rock, Ark. They were looking for a place to live and Dr. Murphy lived in a mansion with 2 beautiful collies. My mother fell in love with Tina's dogs and desired to rent a room there. It was Dr. Tina that told my dad the thing to do was go back to Chicago, enroll at Palmer College of Chiropractic and learn the Grostic technique. She promised him he wouldn't regret this decision. So he did.



Animals were always a very important part of growing up. When my dog, Ginger, couldn't lap up water, her tongue had apparent flaccid paralysis and the vet just scratched his head and gave me antibiotics. I asked my dad if he could help her? Off to the office, he put her on the side posture table, adjusted her, brought her home, and she went straight to the water bowl and was able to drink! This for me was a life changing experience. It was my dad's openness to healing that opened my eyes to new possibilities paving the way for my life's work later on.

As kids, my brother and I didn't see my dad much, he was working! One day I asked my mother who that strange man was in our house, I didn't even recognize my own father. That was it; my mother demanded that my dad bring home his x-rays and analyze them and be with his family. So, he made his own view box and life was changed for-



ever, our dad was home and we were a part of his work ethic. Even my friends remember being downstairs with our player piano and my dad would be marking x-rays and share his words of wisdom!



My dad knew he could not deliver the best adjustment when his radiographs were giving him erroneous measurements. Thank goodness for his machinist background; my dad became the guy who figured out how to install the x-ray equipment with perfect alignment. Then he developed x-ray filters to give the perfect culmination so he could analyze his x-rays with the finest of details. He was able to write this up and NUCCA had an x-ray handbook for all to benefit from. He learned and understood how accurate our adjustment needed to be for the patients' health care process of healing.



When I was 15 years old I started working in my dad's office. I was his secretary on Saturdays, I remember my dad offering his patients their money back if they weren't satisfied with his care! No one ever asked for a refund!

My dad had a strong passion for always wanting to learn and to become a better chiropractor. Once Dr. Gregory told my dad to give up trying to be a NUCCA doctor. His roll-in wasn't good, his triceps pull wasn't what it should be. But he was determined to get it, to have the perfect roll in, a perfect triceps pull. He couldn't live without being a NUCCA Doctor! Thus, he was constantly driving to Monroe, Michigan. Often we'd go with him, thinking that these were just going to be considered our family vacations. So, I learned about dedication, I learned not to give up, I learned to stand for principles that would give one better health. One must persevere! These lessons have served me well.

So, growing up there were two themes that I saw my dad dedicated to. One, he would stay up late at night thinking of how best could he analyze x-rays, and give the best adjustment. Two, how could he best educate his patients to understand the severity of having pressure on their brainstem, he called it a "strangulation." Thus his development of recreating some of the x-ray measuring instruments, developing the triceps pull device, created his own adjustment table that would raise and lower so the patient could get on more easily if needed, the black and orange plastic model that he used to describe the type of subluxation the patient had. There were so many articles written to help educate the NUCCA doctors. His mind never rested, there was always more to share, teach, and how to be a better doctor. These were the patterns my brother and I learned.



My mother of course always had his back. She helped develop the laser lights

to be placed on the Anatomometer to show the discrepancy of the shoulder balance and hip balance.

I worked with my dad for 18 years and during this time I realized how much honoring and perfecting the adjustment was an on-going mission. I wanted to be as dedicated to the practice of NUCCA as my dad was. I became Board certified in June 1993. I know my father was very proud of my brother and myself both for attaining NUCCA Board Certification.

May 1990, my dad wrote the eulogy for Dr. Ralph Gregory: "He gave all his time and all financial benefit, from his research work, to make and prove that there is a science to chiropractic. His patients benefitted from his great ability and his fellow chiropractors could not ask for better leadership. His life's research will live on because of his teaching abilities. If ever there was a person that was born to benefit the health of the world, it was Dr. Ralph Gregory." I believe Dr. Gregory would want to write something similar for my dad. I believe Dr. Gregory and my dad are having a fine time reflecting on how grand the NUCCA and NUCCRA / UCRF organizations are progressing. And, how great NUCCA's teachers are honoring their



skills and how the students are being reminded that they too could be the best adjustors, teachers and researchers.

My father expected the best out of himself and wanted all of us to do the same.

-Dr. Sherry Dickholtz Gaber



I have many fond memories, since Sherry Dickholtz was my roommate at Palmer until graduation. I had the privilege of driving up in the car with the Dickholtz's to the NUCCA Conferences, right from first quarter, when they were still held in the Howard Johnson's in Monroe Michigan, where we had many wonderful conversations in the car on Chiropractic topics as well as NUCCA itself.



And of course, all the memories of seeing Dr. Dickholtz standing in front of the class at the conferences, speaking about x-ray etc. will always be imprinted in my memory. The conferences will never be the same without him. Also, because Sherry took me home with her on occasion, where I sat with the family at their dinner table, I had many interesting discussions on NUCCA Chiropractic, and had the privilege of sitting in the finished basement next to Dr. Dickholtz, where he sat and analyzed films. I could watch and he would show me what he was doing.

I have much gratitude to Sherry, without her I would have not known about NUCCA, and then the connection I had through her to Dr. Dickholtz, and Mrs. Dickholtz, that gave us so much love, support (and meals) throughout the years. Dr. Dickholtz will always be close in my heart, and very fond in my memories, especially when he coined us NUCCA doctors as "brainstem specialists".

With fondest memories,

-Dr. Irene Adamczuk





Thank You Dr. Dickholtz, Sr.

His eyes seemed to always flash with an intensity and yet a special kind of joy and happiness. This was undoubtedly because of his love of NUCCA, his friends, loyalty to Dr. Gregory and his family.

Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. knew in his mind, heart, and soul that his reason for being placed on earth was to heal the ill, to research, and to pass on the work he loved so much.

I was fortunate to have spent 6 weeks with Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. He let me into his world by allowing me to live with him, Mary Ann, and Sherry for an unforgettable 6 weeks (Marshall was in school). Some of the most memorable times I recall were pulling triceps while walking down the streets of Chicago, going over biomechanics at the dinner table, and analyzing x-rays with him in his basement. I cannot think of a time Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. was not talking about either NUCCA, his wife Mary Ann, who he adored more than life itself, his parental concerns, and love for Sherry and Marshall. This was what consumed his life. I feel these were the reasons for his long, full, and passionate life.

He will always be remembered for his drive to pass on NUCCA to the next generation, his infectious smile, and his desire to simplify and add to the NUCCA work. His classic one liners "Hold the phone"

and "Got that now?" will echo the rooms of NUCCA for many years to come.

Needless to say, he made so many valuable contributions to NUCCA and to the chiropractic profession around the world. Many of his research projects, teaching aids, as well as professional gifts to the study of NUCCA will not be fully appreciated for many years to come. He was truly a one of a kind man.

God blessed us with having him in our lives and learning from him. He truly was a transcendent man!

I know he is at peace and his job was well done.

Thank you so much Dr. Dickholtz, Sr.

Love,

-Dr. Glenn Cripe



I had been practicing as an orthopedist for about 8 years before even hearing the word NUCCA. One of my patients had a remarkable experience with it while traveling through Tulsa Oklahoma. She told me I had to learn this technique.

I called around and learned that the next conference would be in the Chicago area the coming October. I went and sat through the beginning level classes. My eyeballs sort of rolled around in my head, inasmuch as I had never been exposed to upper cervical analysis and imaging.

Dr. Dickholtz Sr. taught a couple of the classes. He was in his early seventies at the time. I had only seen one other chiropractor still as excited about what he did as Marshall was. I sought him and his wife

out during that evening's cocktail hour and sat down to chat. Both of them were most gracious and fun to talk with. When Marshall told me that he was still so excited each day to do what he was doing that he needed 4 shots of cognac each night in order to calm down enough to sleep I knew then that this was something I needed to learn. That was in 1998.

-Dr. Greg Koors
Eugene, OR



A great man who epitomized for me the idea of putting passionate effort into your life's purpose. I am better for having known him and will miss his energy, integrity and enthusiasm!

-Dr. Jeffrey N. Scholten



Marshall Dickholtz Sr. stands as a chiropractor of excellence and a person whose life was true to the end in all aspects. He was a remarkable person who did it his own way without financial help. He was a perfectionist of the highest magnitude who had not only a deep love for his family but also for his growing family of upper cervical chiropractors. He was all heart. He was a realist about himself.



He called me the last day of his practice announcing that his time had come to

end his career with his patients. His practice meant more to Marshall than any of us probably can comprehend, for who among us are as driven by passion for service to others as evidenced by his continuous process of perfection of his understanding of the spine and development of skills to address associated problems? I miss him greatly.

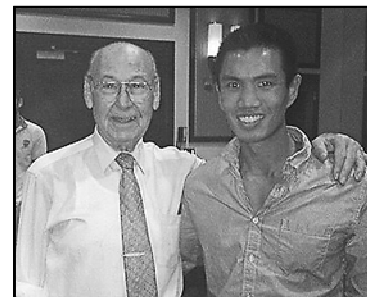
-Jim Palmer



*I Would Not Be Doing NUCCA
if Not for Dr. Dickholtz*

I remember how big of a Gondroid I was back in chiropractic school. It was through Gonstead style adjusting that I was brought into chiropractic, so it only made sense that I would follow that path.

It all changed in 2007 when a small chiropractic organization published a study in a very prestigious scientific journal. Always being a man who was interested in the science and research end of chiropractic, I was very impressed. I was even more impressed when I found out that the paper was featuring upper cervical technique, and had nothing to do with neck and back pain.



I looked up the chiropractor who held the top spot on the paper. I was blown away by his dedication to the principle and practice of chiropractic. Here it was, a man in his 80's who wanted nothing to do with retiring from practice, but was OBSESSED with 2 things: improving his

ability to take care of people, and making sure the world knew about this special kind of chiropractic.

While I didn't switch to upper cervical that day, it had planted a seed in my brain that would take me down this path. I eventually switched to NUCCA at the end of chiropractic school. I realized how much work, study, and science went into the development of this craft. I loved how devoted they were to the science of subluxation, because it seemed like the rest of the chiropractic world was looking to become drug pushers or anti-science bone mashers.

I eventually got to meet Dr. Dickholtz at my first NUCCA conference in 2010. I got to pick his brain outside one of the classrooms. He spent an hour with me talking about how important it is reaching the world. He would always embed his words of wisdom.

In 2014, I actually had a great moment when Dr. Dickholtz recognized me. He never remembered my name, but he knew me as the guy doing lots of Case Studies and told me I was doing great work, but I needed to keep working harder so that the world could benefit.

It's always a cherished moment when the mentor acknowledges the student and I still carry that with me today. Today I practice and write, and develop my skills as a chiropractor and researcher because of the legacy that Marshall Dickholtz Sr. passed on to me.

-Dr. Jonathan Chung



Tribute to Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr.

Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. was one of the most remarkable individuals I have had the privilege of meeting. An icon in the world of chiropractic, he was a beloved doctor, teacher, mentor, and researcher. He was confident and professional, yet free of the egotism common in chiropractic. His focus was on delivering quality chiropractic.

I was his patient. He opened his home to me where I stayed for the initial 3 day workup. He and his equally amazing wife Mary Ann welcomed me as family. I remember him saying, "I'm not going to sleep well tonight. I will be thinking about tomorrow, and giving you the best adjustment possible."

A former machinist, he developed devices to improve chiropractic practice, including x-ray filters, training devices, etc. He was committed to clinical excellence and improving the art, without ever compromising on principle.

He collaborated with medical researchers publishing a paper in the prestigious Journal of Human Hypertension, concerning the NUCCA procedure. This resulted in an outpouring of positive press for chiropractic, and contributed to the body of scientific evidence that the scope of chiropractic is as broad as the influence of the nervous system.

A gentle giant who changed the world.

-Dr. Christopher Kent
-President, Foundation for Vertebral Subluxation
-Host of On Purpose Chiropractic Audio Program



Owed to Dr. Dickholtz

In 1997,
I sought my health to leaven.
Was so sick I could not walk.
So tired of MD's talk.

After about a dozen,
Talked with my DC cousin.
Schooled me in philosophy.
Palmer became home to me.

Optimistic, but still sick,
Handy flyer told me quick
About the good Dr. D.
And his CFS study.
An office in Chicago
Was where I needed to go

His touch was surprisingly as light as a fly.
I started to be well in the blink of an eye.
I consider myself to be quite the planner,
But nothing prepared me
for his bedside manner.
You would really have to see,
to truly believe
What made my dear mother blush
and me want to leave.

Later I fought Bell's Palsy,
then could not stand up,
Trigeminal Neuralgia,
all kinds of weird stuff!
As was to be expected,
his care was unmatched
He helped me stay well
as time gradually passed.

If I did not "hold" for
many months or for years,
There would not be a reason
to give any cheers.
Until he had done
his absolute, utmost best,
This Superman would
never quit or ever rest.

Dr. Dickholtz,
I owe you my excellent health,

My great passion for NUCCA,
and subsequent wealth.
After what you have
graciously gifted to me,
May you rest in peace for all of eternity.

-Kyrie Kleinfelter D.C.



I'll never forget first meeting Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. I was an excited new graduate from Palmer College, unsure about what I was going to do with this shiny new diploma, a little scared about my next step. Dr. D had posted an ad with the school stating that he needed an associate. Honestly, I had never heard of him. I did A.O. through most of clinic, but some of my NUCCA friends told me he was a legend. I thought this would be a great opportunity to meet a pioneer in the profession, but knew he would never hire me. I didn't know how to do NUCCA.

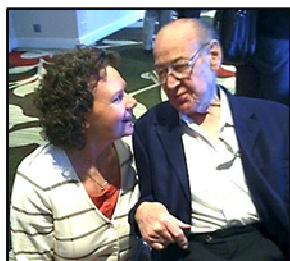


I arrived in his office first thing in the morning and was immediately blown away by the pace this 74-year-old man ran at. I had never seen a NUCCA adjustment and it seemed like the strangest thing I had ever witnessed. The number of people who were holding their correction shocked me. Posture changes were exciting to see, but I had expected to see some of that with my background in A.O. The x-rays were another story. When he analyzed his post films, I had never witnessed anything like it. The changes were amazing. I knew I

wanted to learn this work, but still had my doubts he would ever consider hiring me.

At lunch, I met the lovely and charming Mary Ann. The three of us chatted about NUCCA. Actually, Dr. D did most of the talking. I told him that he would have to teach me everything. I didn't know how to adjust. Then he said the words that changed the course of my career. "Well Honey, if you are willing to learn it, I'm willing to teach you."

I don't know how I could ever thank him for what he has given me. He changed the way I looked at chiropractic and the way I look at life. His passion to help his patients was, and remains, an inspiration for me every day.



-Dr. Barbara Read



One person more than any other has made a lasting impact on me as a Chiropractor.

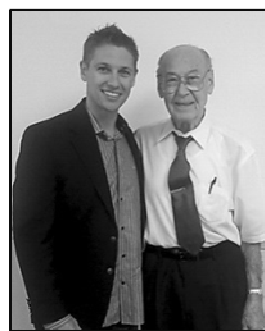
Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. gave me my first NUCCA correction in 2007. His research on Chronic Fatigue intrigued me to find out if NUCCA could help me overcome severe fatigue. Through Dr. Dickholtz care and guidance he made me into a NUCCA doctor. Dr. Dickholtz Sr. had an overwhelming concern for his patients and an unparalleled dedication to the science and art of atlas subluxation correction. He earned my respect very early by telling me "your future health is at stake." He taught us all you need is a good set of x-rays, proper analysis, and a good pair of triceps.

Here is a letter I wrote Dr. D. one year ago.

Dear Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr.,

This letter is far overdue. I am sure you have heard the common quote from DD Palmer, "you never know how far reaching something you say, think, or do today will affect the lives of millions tomorrow." 10 years ago, you adjusted me and it changed my life forever. After suffering with debilitating fatigue, depression, and fog, you gave me a specific, scientific chiropractic adjustment that restored my innate vitality. That simple act was the catalyst for me to take on the NUCCA work and deliver high quality care to as many people as possible.

Your passion, dedication, and unyielding commitment to serve humanity through chiropractic is inspirational and respectable. You have been a wonderful example of what it looks like to deliver great principled chiropractic care. Thank you for your sacrifice and contribution to our profession. Your research has given chiropractic a new found place in health care. You will never know how many lives you have touched but it is important that you know you have had a huge impact on shaping my life. I attribute my great health and success in large part to you and others you have mentored.



I am forever grateful to you Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. You are a great servant and the best chiropractor I have ever met.

I love and appreciate you,

-Dr. Justin Brown



Very few people leave a living legacy; Dr. Dickholtz Sr. has.

I look at all the Monograph articles and research that he has either written or has been a part of; I also consider all the valuable and relevant NUCCA tools and DVDs that he has created and shared, it is our profession that has benefited from his experience.

As I was aligning my x-ray equipment, I really developed an appreciation for the sequential and logical presentation of steps that he has made available via his DVDs. When I thought that there might be a short cut, I eventually had to return to where I departed from, and then understood that the information represented years of experience distilled within the content of the DVD. There were no short cuts.

Personally, I will miss his enthusiasm and encouragement for a new NUCCA doctor. I will miss his voice say "What's up Doc?" He would say this when he would see me at a conference. Perhaps he said that to others too, but he took the time to say this to me.

His living legacy will remain with all the old and new NUCCA doctors he will continue to inspire through his "recorded" years of experience.

Dr. Dickholtz will be missed for all the mentoring, experience, and enthusiasm that he provided - and - he gave it freely.

Dr. Dickholtz will be missed.

-Dr. Martin Claus, DC



While a student at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA, I had the

privilege of learning from and being instructed by Dr. Marshall Dickholtz Sr. As a patient receiving NUCCA care, I felt inspired to pursue a career in Chiropractic, and become a NUCCA practitioner myself. I had the opportunity to hear Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. speak at Lyceum where he presented NUCCA as the most effective way to help patients recover their good health. I remember him saying, "I hate to see so many sick people...this work is the most important thing for mankind."



All who heard Dr. Dickholtz Sr. speak so passionately about NUCCA, were certainly impressed with the conviction by which he spoke. I found it interesting how, to him, he used the terms 'chiropractic' and 'NUCCA' interchangeably. This indicated to me that after decades of dedicated research and practice, he truly felt that the best way to employ chiropractic was without a doubt by using the NUCCA protocols.

Throughout the years of hearing him speak at Palmer, NUCCA conferences, as well as Upper Cervical Evolution, he was consistent with his message- NUCCA research would lead to some of the greatest advancements in healthcare. He was always very excited about sharing his research with all. And as only Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. could, a eighty-something researcher would happily invite questions from the audience by saying: "Ask me anything you want, except about my sex life." And all would turn quickly to see how his

dear wife was responding. It was always apparent that she practically expected to hear his quick one-liners.

He would tell us, "Go ahead and ask whatever you want, I hope to share everything I know with you while I'm still alive." When presenting, he would always get frustrated by time limitations on his talks/classes because he wanted to teach us everything he knew. At times it was very difficult for him keep with one train of thought or topic. As he would try to stick with one area of focus, he would try to keep his amazing mind on track and often repeat, "wait, hold the phone", as he cruised from one topic or tidbit to another.

Thanks to the immense generosity of Dr. Dickholtz Sr. and his wife, in Palmer's Main Clinic, there was a complete upper cervical x-ray suite donated as well as an Anatometer II and two NUCCA tables. It was such a blessing to be able to have this equipment in order to help improve skills prior to graduation and practice. My wife received her first NUCCA correction using that equipment. Thank you Dr. Dickholtz Sr.! I will be forever grateful for the time that he and other NUCCA doctors donated to teach the NUCCA technique elective course at Palmer. He taught us a lot about the triceps pull, but the lasting impression he made on me was that the world needs NUCCA care and he was planning on dedicating his life to make sure doctors were best prepared to go into the world to serve mankind. He served his life's purpose diligently and fully, and the legacy he helped establish can now be carried forward to the masses, one sick person at a time.

Humbly grateful,

-Dr. Jason Minogue



Dr. Marshall Dickholtz was a legend to many of us because of his brilliance and devotion to healing. But for me, it was more than that. His extraordinary kindness created an imprint that will never leave my memory.

I was serving as executive director for NUCCA when my older daughter, at the age of 36, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Fortunately, it turned out to be a low-level case, but it required patience, tests, and great perseverance to get to where we had solid information upon which to base choices. I was flying back and forth from Maui to California on a monthly basis to offer support and care. When Dr. Marshall heard about this, he immediately flew me out to Chicago, put me up in a hotel, took me to lunch and dinner each day of my stay, and worked on me in his office twice. He determined that the NUCCA corrections I had been receiving throughout the years were inaccurately calculated. He worked on the opposite side of my neck and was able to bring me into balance as no one else ever had.

He was so clear and so loving. He said there was no way I could function in my family crisis and with NUCCA without balance. And he was certainly right. But it was the action he took to reach out to me without discussion. He got me to Chicago as quickly as possible and took care of me on many levels. A profound act of kindness and caring that touched and healed me in a truly remarkable way.

-Susan Wikler



Dr. Dickholtz devoted his life to NUCCA. He was so enthusiastic and wanted everyone to know how powerful and healing being in alignment is. Dr. Dickholtz only adjusted with one hand. He

once said that he had broken his hand in a bar fight and couldn't use it to adjust. True or not, it's a good story. (BTW, I had asked him if I could tell people that he broke his hand in a bar fight, and he said "Sure, I don't care.")

My other favorite story about Dr. Dickholtz is the one about when the Jehovah's Witness came to his house. Dr. D. did not get saved, but he talked the proselytizer into becoming a patient. I'm sure that patient was saved by NUCCA."

-Dr. Kathy Doyle



My journey with NUCCA started in my first or second quarter at Palmer College in 1979. Marshall Dickholtz Jr was overseeing a NUCCA club meeting and motioned for me to come in.

I arrived at Palmer having had a great initial Chiropractic experience. However, I was getting curious as to why I continually needed to be adjusted. After all, if innate is supposed to be so intelligent, why couldn't the spine fix itself? Was the spine the only glitch in God's design?

When Marshall explained the NUCCA philosophy, and Dr. Sherry gave me my first correction, I was totally in! My journey in NUCCA and my amazing con-

nection with the Dickholtz dynasty had begun.

With Marshall graduating, my quest for a 'better' adjustment led me to frequent trips to Chicago, which started my connection with Dr. Marshall Sr. I did whatever it took to get to Chicago for "the right" adjustment.

Over the next few years, and for many years to follow, I became very close with the entire family. I was mentored by Dr. D, shared holiday meals at their home, and supported many of his innovative projects. I definitely felt included in their family.

I worked with Dr. Dickholtz from the time I graduated in 1981 until I opened my own practice in 1987. Although we had developed some underlying philosophical differences, I was always warmly welcomed and accepted by Dr. D.

For many years, I was out of communication with Dr. Dickholtz. Occasionally, I would see him when I attended NUCCA conferences. He always greeted me with kindness and love and respect.

Toward the end, I was aware that his Mary Ann was not doing well and that Dr D seemed to be winding down as well. I called him a few weeks before he passed. It was a brief but profoundly healing and loving conversation. Rest in peace Doctor D. You did well.

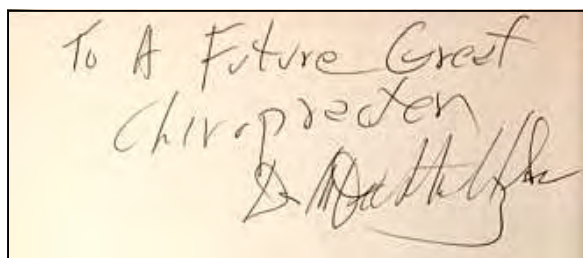
-Dr. Dan Fedeli



At my first conference as a fifth tri Palmer student, I met Dr. Dickholtz. I asked him if he would do me the honor of signing my NUCCA text. He did, and

signed it with a beautiful message that I will forever cherish.

-Dr. Zachary T. Molland



The world, not just Chiropractic, has lost a giant, every bit as great a giant in many ways as Dr. Ralph Gregory!

I know because the first time I stayed with Marshall and Mary Ann, observed and assisted in his office, I fell into a giant footprint! It took me 3 days to reach the other side and climb out of the impressions made by his huge shoes, a force of impact on the world and profession! Such a footprint defies being filled by others without great striving, will be impervious to being obscured by bigotry, will unlikely be erased by time!

The world will not soon forget this giant!

Would that NUCCA as well as each one of us, could learn what it takes to fill those shoes... learn at least that measure of



strength and character which lends itself to the search for betterment.

-Dr. Robert Neff



I met Marshall Dickholtz at my first NUCCA Conference in Toledo. I arranged to spend a half day with him before flying home to the San Francisco Bay Area. Those few hours with Marshall changed the way I viewed my future chiropractic practice. I asked him if he would consider allowing me to work with him. Thankfully, he said he was hoping that I would ask him. What an honor! One year later I moved my family of four across the country to begin working with him and Barbara Kruse (Read). Marshall and his lovely wife, Mary Ann, were quite wonderful to us.

At the office in that first year, Marshall worked with me nearly every night for 15 - 30 minutes on my roll-in. Taking his films, setting up patients for the adjustment and measuring them on the Anatometer - what intense training. He always demanded a lot from his associates, but was always encouraging when he saw our effort. Working side by side with Marshall over those three years taught me what passion for this work meant. I saw a man who stayed late on difficult cases to continue to reduce the subluxation. He hated to see people suffer and would give his very best efforts to help. I saw his anguish when he did all he could and knew it wouldn't be enough. More often than that though, he



was able to achieve corrections in those tough cases.

Marshall had a deep love and respect for his mentor and teacher, Ralph Gregory. He and Mary Ann would talk often about how much they missed Ralph and Ruth in their lives. I would often see him look up from the light board, fix his gaze on the picture of Dr. Gregory and sigh. Marshall had a short and disappointing relationship with his father. I believe that he considered Ralph to be the father that he had always wanted. When Marshall would get tired he talked about Dr. Gregory and suddenly seemed to have the energy to go on. It's as if he was trying to please his mentor in practice and in life.

We all know about Marshall's landmark studies, his unswerving convictions, his inventions, and his absolute life dedication to our work. One of the facts that I have discovered which few people know is just how many young associate doctors came to work with him. Joanne, his CA of over twenty-five years counted more than one hundred who came for a few months to Dr. Chung, who was there more than a decade. I believe that Marshall underestimated the inspiration and training that he has provided young NUCCA Chiropractors over the decades. His work lives on through the work of those practicing throughout North America; helping hundreds of thousands of patients recover and maintain health. I often tell my patients, it is because of God's blessing and the training I received from Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. that I have been able to help them.

Thank you Dr. D for all you have done for me. I will always be grateful for the opportunity you have given to me.

-Dr. Bruce Giffen



The Heroes Journey

As long as there has been a NUCCA organization, Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. has been an active and instrumental part of our group. I knew him for almost 35 years, having the privilege to serve with him on the NUCCA and UCRF boards that support our organization. To this day, I've never met anyone with as much energy, enthusiasm, drive, focus and steadfast dedication to the NUCCA cause while helping make a difference in other people's lives.



Marshall Dickholtz Sr. was an uncommon hero in the midst of a battle for the right of people to have access to an extraordinary gift called NUCCA. He knew deep in his heart, the essence of his being, that an optimal NUCCA correction was the one thing that can open a human being to their fullest potential. Although he had many words, his words were backed by results. Whether in the day-to-day care of his patients or the challenging trenches of the scientific community and scrutiny, his results were there.

Perhaps his legacy best lives on in the long and arduous road of research resulting in the publication of a number of pivotal papers. The most important being the NUCCA hypertension study. His strong inter-professional relationships built upon a strong team of people who collaborated to complete one of the most notable research projects of chiropractic history.

Epilogue

I worked with Marshall for many years, sat on many board meetings, and in many classes with him. It took me many decades to understand him. At first, he would talk so quickly and passionately that taking in all he said was like drinking water from a fire hose. I knew deep down that he had many valuable things to offer and made a personal commitment to listen very closely. Over the past number of years, I listened even more closely as I knew our original founders were slowly fading away. From Dr. Gregory on down, there are so few who possess, not just the knowledge of NUCCA work, but a deep understanding of it. Dr. Dickholtz was one of those Doctors. He taught me many things over the years, right up to his passing. He challenged me to look at things differently and to never ever lose focus on the importance of the details, accuracy, and quality work.

Marshall Dickholtz Sr. was an uncommon hero. His legacy and dedication will be felt and known across many generations. I will miss your voice of sheer excitement, passion in our board meetings, and enthusiasm brought to the classes you taught at the conferences. I still see you and your loving wife, Mary Ann as constant ambassadors of NUCCA hospitality providing encouragement at the conferences to all those you met in your life.

Thank you Marshall for your passion, your energy, unswerving dedication to learning and improving how we practice what we do. Thank you also for caring enough to invent and improve so many aspects of the NUCCA work; from x-ray alignment and filters to the triceps pull. May all of us carry your torch of passion somewhere in our hearts as we work each day offering one of the greatest gifts the world has known in healthcare, NUCCA.

With deep appreciation and respect for a vital and exciting life well lived.

Sincerely,

-Dr. D. Gordon Hasick

There are no words to describe my relationship with Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. While there were some dry spells where a week would go by, we talked almost daily for almost twenty years. I would often hear the latest successes or his latest research idea. We always talked about NUCCA. NUCCA was Dr. D's life. I have yet to meet a man so driven to maintain excellence by refining his skills in finding and fixing the Atlas Subluxation Complex. I miss my friend who freely shared his passion and love for NUCCA.



Marshall told me much about his mentor Dr. Ralph R. Gregory, and his appreciation of the guiding principles ultimately developed as the NUCCA procedure. I felt as though I knew Dr. Gregory through Marshall. Marshall shared details of the meticulous research Dr. Gregory used in developing NUCCA, how each step had been completely investigated before being placed in the protocol. The science behind NUCCA. Dr. Gregory left nothing to chance or conjecture. Neither did Marshall. The current NUCCA x-ray protocol reflects Marshall's attention to detail.

Over the years of conversation, two topics prevailed; how do we get more NUCCA members and how do we develop more Board Certified Doctors? After observing NUCCA miracles in his office developing Palmer's Practice Based Research, I was introduced to Dr. Bruce Bell who sent Dr. D. over 8,000 patients for NUCCA care. At our first meeting, we decided to validate the NUCCA procedure and wrote out a plan on a napkin, which

culminated in the Hypertension study. We believed that to accomplish this task NUCCA research had to be conducted following methods understood by medical doctors, using detailed and thorough protocols, and then publishing the results in medical journals. This in turn would be the catalyst to attract new members and motivate Doctors to make that extra effort to obtain Board Certification.

I could fill a book describing my adventures with Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. while spreading the NUCCA news. Dr. Dickholtz, Sr. set the example for persistence and instilled a vital importance in conducting research on the NUCCA procedure. Marshall lived and breathed NUCCA. He demonstrated that when the NUCCA protocol is followed consistently, the Doctor would produce consistent miracles. "Imagine the benefits to mankind if everyone had a NUCCA adjustment." This is the "why" for doing our research.

In our last conversation, he told me that he was getting tired, "that getting NUCCA research done and out to the world is up to me." He told me that if I dropped the ball he would "come haunt me from the grave." A week later, I sadly learned there never would be another NUCCA discussion with Marshall.

I miss my mentor who instilled the love of NUCCA into every fiber of my being.

Thank you Marshall for all you freely gave.

**-Dr. Chuck Woodfield
Director of Research, UCRF**



**Special Thanks to Dr. Daiki Ishiyama,
Mrs. Edna Denton, and Dr. Robert Neff
for supplying the majority of the photos
used in this tribute.**

















Dr. Marshall Dickholtz, Sr. told the NUCCA story clearly and loudly to the world. He will be remembered for his relentless, steadfast, unswerving dedication to research, teaching, and sharing his clinical expertise.

