

In Memoriam



Albert W. Diddle, MD (Dec. 23, 2009)

Albert W. Diddle was born on July 1, 1909 in Caldwell County, Missouri. At the age of 100, he died on December 23, 2009 at Elmcroft Center of West Knoxville, Tennessee. After graduating from college (University of Missouri) and medical school (Yale), Dr. Diddle completed his Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at the University of Iowa. Dr. Diddle pursued additional training in gynecological surgery, specializing in oncology, at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas. As a naval physician in the United States Navy, Dr. Diddle served as a lieutenant commander and was stationed in the Pacific and China during World War II.

In 1948 Dr. Diddle moved to Knoxville, Tennessee and opened his practice as the first Board-certified Ob/Gyn in Knoxville. Dr. Diddle subsequently became a partner of Fort Sanders Ob/Gyn Associates. He was an active teacher at the University of Tennessee and was active on

the founding committee to building the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville. He served as the Ob/Gyn Residency Program director for many years. Additionally, he served as an oral examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Diddle authored over 130 publications and many textbook chapters. Dr. Diddle, along with Dr. William Gardner were two of the original researchers on the oral contraception pill. Dr. Diddle received numerous awards and honors during his professional career.

Dr. Diddle was preceded in death by his wife, R. J. King Diddle. He is survived by his son, John (Debbie) of Knoxville, daughter Jane Thompson (Hugh) of Midgeville, GA, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Full military honors were presented by the East Tennessee Veteran's Honor Guard at the graveside service.

Submitted by Larry J. Copeland, MD