Memorial Recognition

Established in 2002, Memorial Recognition serves as a posthumous tribute to a creative and devoted physician, research scientist, or other member who has contributed to the field of ultrasound in medicine. The honoree is recognized at the Plenary Session during the Annual Convention of the AIUM.

William Lindley Diacon, MD, RDMS, FAIUM

Dr Lindley Diacon attended the University of Kansas from 1969 to 1973, receiving a BA degree in microbiology. He received his MD degree from the University of Kansas in 1976. He was a diagnostic radiology resident at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas, from 1976 through 1980, serving as chief resident in 1979 and 1980. After completion of his residency, he moved to northwest Arkansas, where he was the medical director of the mobile ultrasound laboratory that brought the first ultrasound services to Carroll, Madison, and Benton counties.

Dr Diacon was a staff member of St Mary’s/Mercy hospital from 1980 until 2017, and was on the staff of Bates Hospital, Eureka Springs Hospital, Carroll General Hospital, and Huntsville Hospital from 1980 to 1986. In 1989, he joined the Rogers Medical Center, where he continued to practice until 2017.

In 1996, he was the medical director of the first ultrasound department in Arkansas to become accredited by the AIUM. In 2001, he was appointed to the Accreditation Council of the AIUM where he served until 2012. His last 2 years were as council chair. He also served on the AIUM Clinical Standards committee and was immensely helpful in the AIUM–American College of Radiology–Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound collaboration to produce the Practice Guideline for the Performance of Diagnostic and Screening Ultrasound Examinations of the Abdominal Aorta in Adults. This guideline was intended to assist in the performance and interpretation of the dedicated sonographic examination of the abdominal aorta. Dr Diacon also participated in developing practice guidelines for the performance of fetal echocardiography, pelvic ultrasound examinations, and neurosonography in neonates and infants. In 2010, he was elected a fellow of the AIUM.

He was a member of the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography Examination Development Task Force, serving as a subject matter expert in obstetric and gynecologic ultrasound from 2004 to 2010. He was a frequent speaker at local, regional, and national ultrasound meetings and published numerous articles on diagnostic ultrasound. Although his practice was initially limited to diagnostic ultrasound, Dr Diacon became interested in the diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis. In 1999, he helped develop and became medical director of the Osteoporosis Diagnosis Program for the Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas. In June 2008, his dual–x-ray absorptiometry (osteoporosis diagnosis) practice was among the first 20 practices in the country to become an International Society of Clinical Densitometry (ISCD)–accredited facility. That same month, he was asked and accepted an
invitation to become a member of the ISCD’s Commission on the Accreditation of Skeletal Assessment Facilities.

Dr Diacon had more than 40 years of experience in the medical field and was beloved by many. He died on September 10, 2017, at Circle of Life Legacy Village in Bentonville, Arkansas. Dr Diacon is survived by his wife Glenda and children Kristen Danielle and Aaron Lindley.