

Larry E. Tope, OD

Inducted May 24, 2015

Paulding High School		1973
Bowling Green State University	B.S.	1977
Ohio State University College of Optometry	O.D.	1981



Larry E. Tope graduated from Bowling Green State University in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in biology and minor in chemistry. From Bowling Green State University he attended the Ohio State University College of Optometry graduating in 1981 with a Doctor of Optometry Degree and was secretary and treasurer of his senior class. He is a member of the American Optometric Association, the Contact Lens Section of the AOA, the Ohio Optometric Association, and the Key OD for OOA Ohio District 82 and also participates in the Realeyes and InfantSEE OOA Programs (Save Our Sight State Initiative). Dr. Tope feels that it is important to give back to the community and over the years has spoken to Paulding, Oakwood, Payne, Antwerp, Lincolnview, Tinora, and Defiance students on how the eye functions, the importance of vision in learning, taking care of their eye health, eye safety, and the role of an optometrist (primary health care providers who examine, diagnose, treat and manage diseases of the visual system, the eye, and associated structures, as well as diagnose related systemic conditions). Dr. Tope has also provided vision screenings to local pre-school students. At the conclusion of his talks with the students he encourages them to study hard and to consider becoming an eye doctor. He also travels and attends lectures often to stay current on new developments and medical treatments in eye care. In 2014 he received an invitation and attended the 100 year anniversary of the Ohio State University College of Optometry in Columbus. Dr. Tope is an active member of the Paulding Lions Club and has held the offices of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Dr. Tope attends St. John Lutheran Church in Briceton. He is married to Debra S. (Hartwig) Tope and has two children, Lauren Ashley Tope and Remy Michael Tope. Both his children have graduated from college and are now advancing in their professions.