Dr. William Woolery, M.D.



William Woolery was salutatorian of his Smith-Cotton graduating class of 1969. He was a member of the Latin Club, Junior Classical League, Letterman's Club, and National Honor Society. He was a talented athlete, participating on the Smith-Cotton basketball and golf teams. He was the Latin Club and Letterman's Club President during his senior year and was recognized as the "Outstanding Senior Boy."

His impressive high school resume allowed Dr. Woolery to be awarded a Curator's Scholarship to attend the University of Missouri. At Mizzou, he majored in chemistry and was selected for membership in Phi Beta Kappa (academic honor society). He graduated from The University of Missouri Summa Cum Laude, and throughout his undergraduate years, he still found the time to participate in intramural athletics and other student organizations.

Dr. Woolery attended medical school at the St. Louis University School of Medicine, where he continued to excel academically. He was invited to join the medical honor society Alpha Omega Alpha, which recognizes outstanding academic leadership, scholarship, and commitment to patient care. Dr. Woolery completed medical school in the top five percent of his graduating class. His internship and residency were completed in internal medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. While at Vanderbilt, he was chosen for a fellowship in pulmonary medicine after completion of his internal medicine studies.

Dr. Woolery could have practiced medicine anywhere he wanted at more lucrative locations. However, he chose to return to Sedalia after completing his residency and started a very successful practice. That practice, Sedalia Internal Medicine, continues to be a thriving and compassionate practice that services hundreds of Sedalia area patients. He is a key member of the Bothwell Regional Health Center staff who has a patient count consistently among the largest of any doctor in the area, which demonstrates his ability, compassion, and commitment to the Sedalia community.

Dr. Woolery currently serves on the Bothwell Board of Directors. He was the first and the only practicing physician appointed to the board. He also serves on the Bothwell Credential Committee and the Finance Committee. Dr. Woolery is also the medical director for Fairview Nursing Home. With his extremely busy professional life, Dr. Woolery still finds time to give back to the Sedalia community that he loves so much. He has served on the Sedalia Little League and Sedalia Parks Department Board of Directors, coached numerous youth basketball, baseball, and soccer teams, and has served on PTA and PTO committees while his sons were attending school in Sedalia. Over the last 30 years, Dr. Woolery has supported too many causes to mention with both his time and financial contributions. His impact has been felt by not just his patients but also by the entire Sedalia community.

Inducted in Smith-Cotton Academic Hall of Fame, 2013