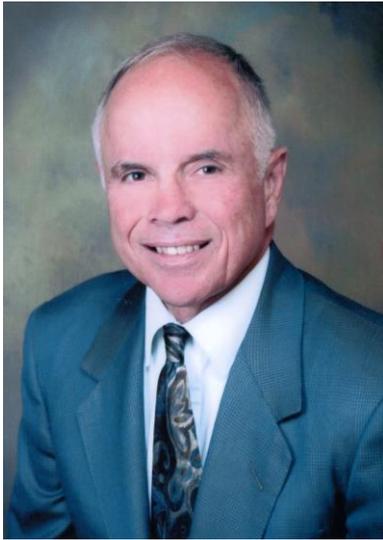


Distinguished Alumni Award: Dr. James W. Miller, class of 1955



Dr. James W. Miller '55 is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award based on his dedication to advancing surgical procedures and results in his chosen field of Otolaryngology, the branch of medicine that specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of ear, nose, throat, and head and neck disorders. The full name of the specialty is otolaryngology-head and neck surgery.

Miller, a prominent individual at U-High and also during his years at Carleton College (Northfield, MN), earned a Phi Beta Kappa award and letter in football and wrestling. In 1958, Miller participated in the NCAA National Wrestling Championships held in Laramie, Wyoming.

Following medical school, Miller spent two years as chief flight surgeon at Wurtsmith Air Force Base on the shores of Lake Huron. In 1966, he was selected out of 150 applicants as one of three ear, nose, and throat residents to be trained at the University of California – San Francisco.

Miller began private practice in 1970 and between 1970 and 1998, performed 5,000 surgeries and managed over 100,000 office visits. He continues to see patients on a part-time basis (about two hours per week) and assists on a fair number of head and neck surgeries. During his medical career, he was elected Chief of Surgery, subsequently Chief of Staff, and served on the Board of Directors at his hospital for several years.

Miller pioneered microscopic ear, major head and neck, as well as facial fracture surgeries at his local hospitals. He developed a new operation for intractable nose bleeds. Other surgeons learned of his innovations and incorporated them into their practices.

The mayor of Oakland, CA appointed Miller a Commissioner of the Citizens Police Review Board with the responsibility to adjudicate complaints of citizens against the police. While Commissioner, Miller received respect from both citizens and police for a fair and honest evaluation of both sides of contentious issues.

Over twenty years ago, Miller passed the General Securities Representative Exam (commonly known as the Series 7 Exam), the most comprehensive financial securities exam offered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. He serves as a stock broker with a private firm based in Walnut Creek. Miller has also become enthusiastically involved with "mushrooming" leading forays and giving presentations to a wide variety of Bay Area civic organizations. He and his wife have travelled extensively in the United

States. Other trips have included Russia, parts of Europe, Morocco, New Zealand, and Northeastern Canada.

Miller's nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Award received extensive support from his fellow classmates, including these reflections:

"Metcalf and University High School gave Jim the tools to learn and he used his special talents on...his patients and peers."

"To me, Jim exemplifies what University High graduates are trained for – a lifetime of service to others and acting as a role model each and every day for all those we come in contact with either in our professional or private lives."

For his outstanding talents, success, and contributions, James Miller joins the select group of University High School Distinguished Alumni. Congratulations Dr. James Miller!