

---

# St. Thomas University

## News

Information Office  
St. Thomas University

Fredericton  
New Brunswick  
Canada E3B 5G3

(506) 455-3337

---

Release Date: 26 April 1984

Release Number: 2601 8404

### JUNE 2 DINNER

#### A TRIBUTE TO DR. ROY CREAMER

The memory of Saint John physician the late Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer will be honored at a dinner-dance, on June 2, 1984, at 7:00 P.M. in the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre.

A pioneer in the field of geriatric medicine, Dr. Creamer is widely remembered as the "Father of Geriatric Care in New Brunswick". At the time of his death, November 13, 1982, he was Chief, Department of Geriatric Medicine; Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee; and President of the Medical Staff at the Saint John Regional Hospital.

An Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Dr. Creamer practised his specialty in Saint John for some fifteen years. During that time he won distinction in this field of medicine and served at various times as: Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology, St. Joseph's Hospital, Saint John; and President of the Atlantic Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He was also a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

In the mid-70's he began to concentrate his study and practice in the field of geriatric medicine. Apr

---

Director of Chronic and Extended Care at the West Saint John Community Hospital, 1976, he instituted a series of pilot programs which advanced geriatric medicine in the Province.

Under Dr. Creamer's leadership, a Geriatric Care Committee was organized which proposed and implemented various changes in the approach to chronic care at the West Side Hospital. A multidisciplinary approach to geriatric care was adopted and new treatment procedures successfully reduced infections and increased the recovery rate among geriatric patients. The committee published its findings in medical journals and conducted workshops on geriatric care for medical personnel at other hospitals in the Province.

The success of Dr. Creamer's initiatives led in 1979 to the establishment at the hospital of a Department of Geriatrics. From 1979-81, innovations begun in 1976 were augmented by expanding services to patients, introducing therapeutic programs and applying rehabilitation concepts to geriatric care. During this time Dr. Creamer promoted geriatrics as a medical specialty and shared the department's expertise with many.

In May 1981, Dr. Creamer in cooperation with the Department of Health, Province of New Brunswick, established a Geriatric Teaching Unit at the hospital. The unit assisted other New Brunswick hospitals in instituting geriatric units and in training staff for the units. Following the transfer of the department to the new Saint John Regional Hospital in 1982, the Teaching Unit was expanded to include a Residents Teaching Program which provides training in geriatric medicine

to resident physicians from the Department of Family Medicine, Dalhousie University.

In recognition of Dr. Creamer's expertise in the field of Geriatrics, he was appointed Atlantic Region Special Advisor in Geriatrics by Veterans Affairs Canada, 1979, and was named to the Premier's Advisory Committee on Programs and Services for Seniors in New Brunswick, 1982.

The June 2 gala dinner in honour of Dr. Creamer's memory is being organized by St. Thomas University under the leadership of Saint John businessman Mr. Mitchell Franklin. The dinner is both a tribute to Dr. Creamer's distinguished achievements in Geriatric Medicine and a means of perpetuating his work in the field of aging. As an alumnus of St. Thomas and a member of its Board of Governors, Dr. Creamer initiated the University's interest in gerontology. He proposed that the University respond to the needs of the elderly by introducing programs in gerontology and training personnel for this field.

Proceeds from the dinner are in support of the establishment at the University of the Dr. T. LeRoy Creamer Memorial Endowment in Gerontology. The Endowment will enable the University to further its work in the field of gerontology. Invitations to the dinner may be obtained directly from St. Thomas University in Fredericton, 452-7700, or by contacting Mr. Franklin or Mr. Arnie Hachey in Saint John, 642-4702.