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Cody Family Honored by the SWOSU College of Pharmacy



Members of the Coody family were recently honored with the College of Pharmacy Heritage Award at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. Attending the ceremony in Weatherford were (from left) Don of Edmond and Lucas of Lawton. With them is SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean Dr. David Ralph.

Members of the Coody family from Edmond and Lawton were recently honored with the College of Pharmacy Heritage Award at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

The Heritage Award recognizes a family with at least two generations of SWOSU pharmacy graduates who have demonstrated a commitment to the SWOSU College of Pharmacy and the pharmacy profession.

SWOSU pharmacy graduates in the Coody family are Don (1954) and Lucas (2016).

"The Coody family's years of service to the pharmacy profession, as well as to their communities and their support of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, nobly meets the values for the SWOSU College of Pharmacy's Heritage Award," said SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean Dr. David Ralph.

Don, after graduating from SWOSU in 1954, established a name and reputation for quality care and customer service throughout his pharmacy career, eventually owning 20+ stores. For many years, he was an active member of the Oklahoma Pharmacists Association (OPhA), serving on the executive council and numerous committees. For his outstanding service to OPhA, his community and the pharmacy profession, he was recognized with the nationally known Bowl of Hygeia Award in 2008. Now retired, Don and his wife, Clara Lou, live in Edmond and have three adult children, four grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

Don's grandson, Lucas Coody, graduated from the SWOSU College of Pharmacy in 2016. Working at the Anderson Pharmacy in Lawton, he was the pharmacist-in-charge. He has been actively involved with OPhA legislation, RxSelect Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services, and Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy committees. He has made time to educate pharmacy students on the importance of advocacy in the pharmacy profession and how to get involved with legislation. In 2019, he received the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award for Oklahoma, presented by the OPhA. In 2021, he started a new position as director of government affairs at Pharmacy Providers of Oklahoma, which has recently joined Arete Rx to create AlignRx, the largest independent pharmacy services administrative organization in the nation. Lucas and his wife, Lauren, live in Lawton with their two daughters.

At the recent SWOSU ceremony, each family member received an engraved Heritage Award Commemorative Coin, a College of Pharmacy blanket, and their names displayed on a tree stake in the garden area by the College of Pharmacy Heritage Tree, a white bud tree that was planted in 2014 for the College of Pharmacy's 75th anniversary celebration.

SWOSU's pharmacy program was established in 1939 and currently has over 6,000 graduates. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education and is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. SWOSU offers a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree as well as a PharmD/MBA dual degree.