

Birdsong Named 2017 Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus at SWOSU

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Carl Birdsong of Amarillo (TX) has been named the 2017 Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University College of Pharmacy.

Birdsong was honored during the recent SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Recognition Ceremony held in conjunction with homecoming festivities held November 4 on the Weatherford campus.

The Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus award is presented to a SWOSU pharmacy graduate who has demonstrated exceptional support of the College of Pharmacy and outstanding personal achievements in the pharmacy profession.

Birdsong graduated from the SWOSU pharmacy program with honors in 1983, which he did while he also was a punter and kicker for the SWOSU Bulldog football team and then a punter for the St. Louis Cardinals in the National Football League (1981-1986). He completed his pharmacy requirements in the off-season. After graduation and passing his pharmacy license board examinations, Birdsong spent the off-season after 1983 as a practicing pharmacist, the first NFL player to do so. In 1984, he was selected as the NFC Pro-Bowl punter.

Birdsong is a graduate of Amarillo High School. He began working part-time for Maxor in Amarillo in 1977 and joined the company as a staff pharmacist after his NFL career.

He started Maxor's Infusion Pharmacy Division in 1986, which quickly developed into one of the company's most successful divisions. In 1996, he was named vice president and later president of Maxor's Infusion Services. In 1998, he was named president of Maxor Pharmacies. Birdsong is now president and chief compliance officer of Maxor National Pharmacy Services.

He has served on numerous boards in the Amarillo community, including the YMCA, Center City and The Bridge, a children advocacy center.

In addition to Birdsong's professional achievements and his community service, he is supportive of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy by serving on the College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Board. Additionally, he supports SWOSU and its athletic program. In 1983, he was inducted into the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

Birdsong is married to Shylan and they have two children: son Dr. Orry Birdsong and daughter, Shylana Enos, who is married to Dr. Tyler Enos.