

In honor of Family Medicine physician William E. Davis, MD

Dr. William Davis began caring for our community in 1976. When, in 1978, he was asked to join the faculty as associate director of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Franciscan Skemp Medical Center in La Crosse, it was an opportunity he couldn't pass up. In 1987, he returned to practice in Winona and served our community until his retirement on August 1, 2015.

In addition to providing outstanding care and compassion to every person, Dr. Davis's vision included developing a shared electronic medical record system for the Winona community. He was a pioneer in exploring how electronic records could make access to crucial patient health information easily and immediately accessible at the point of care. He devoted countless hours to working with staff to develop the electronic infrastructure required for safer, higher-quality, more efficient care, and he was instrumental in bringing his vision for electronic medical records to reality.

Due in large part to his dedication to healthcare improvement, his knowledge as a physician and his continuous work in the field of information technology, Dr. Davis was Winona Health's first Chief Medical Information Officer. Dr. Davis passed away November 2, 2020.

Some of Dr. Davis's countless accomplishments and contributions:

- Hospital Ethics Committee
- Helped develop computer system for Winona Health
- Speaker at national medical conferences on electronic medical needs
- First Chief Medical Information Officer at Winona Health
- Medical Director WinonaChoice
- Medical Director Winona Area Hospice
- Medical Director Home and Community Options
- Physician Leadership in Quality Award, Minnesota Medical Association
- Lifetime Achievement Award from the Cerner Corporation

Education:

- Luther College BA
- Luther Theological Seminary MDiv
- University of Minnesota MD
- University of Minnesota MS

Residency:

- Family Practice, St. John's Hospital, St. Paul, Minn.

Professional Organizations:

- Minnesota Academy of Family Practice
- American Board of Family Practice
- Minnesota Medical Association
- American Medical Association
- Society of Teachers of Family Practice
- American Medical Informatics Association

“Dr. Davis had a remarkable career as a family physician, and his contributions to Winona Health and the community are vast. He made a positive impact on Winona Health, our community, our state, and on the advancement of healthcare information technology. We are deeply grateful for his dedication.”

— Rachele H. Schultz, EdD, Winona Health President/CEO

“To me, Passion for Excellence means the dedicated staff of Winona Health tackling the challenging task of building and implementing an Electronic Medical Record beginning in 2001. I was pleased to be the first Chief Medical Information Officer and work with dozens of nurses, clerks, lab and radiology personnel, and computer staff of Cerner Corporation to tailor the system to our needs for safe and efficient patient care. After more than a year of testing we were able to go live with the system that allowed physicians, nurses and ancillary personnel to enter and execute orders and document the care provided electronically. These records are available any time and any place with password protected electronic connection. Winona Health received national awards for its Electronic Medical Record that also allows patients to access their records and communicate with physicians and nurses.”

— William E. Davis, MD

Winona Health