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and Surgeons**

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In Memoriam



Charles Wheeler McDowell, M.D. (1935-2023)

Dr. McDowell—"Mac"—was a steady presence at AAPS Board of Directors meetings for decades. He served as president in 1994 and as secretary for several terms. His wife Sharon was with him at meetings until very recently. He had many grandchildren, one of whom is also pictured here.

Dr. McDowell graduated from Tulane Medical school and practiced ophthalmology in Georgia for 60 years until he retired in 2021 at age 86.

He served as president of the Dekalb Medical Society and was a member of the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Ophthalmology. He was an elder at Perimeter Church in Duluth, Ga.

Mac's firm, principled leadership was critical at the

time of our lawsuit against the Clinton Health Care Task Force, when AAPS was under intense government pressure to settle. The suit is credited with derailing the Clinton Health Security Act, which would have criminalized payment for medical care outside the system. The government was forced to allow access to the Task Force documents, which revealed the key role of managed care corporations and of foundations, such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which has pervasive influence at all levels of the medical system. The archive can be accessed here: <https://aapsonline.org/aaps-v-clinton-archive/>.

Mac's friendship, humor, insights, and unwavering principles are very much missed.