



Larry Dorsey, MD

City: Knoxville, TN

Date of Graduation from Medical School: 1957

Medical School Graduated From: University of Tennessee – Memphis

Residency Location: University of Tennessee Hospital (Knoxville)

Specialty: Internal Medicine

What factors influenced your decision to become a physician? Father was a physician. It was always assumed by many people – family, friends, etc. – that I would be a doctor. However, I got no direct advice to do so.

Did you have any mentors or influential people in the course of your medical training or career who made an impact on you? Too numerous to list from professors to attendings.

Did you experience a defining moment that made you feel you had become a physician? Yes – that first night in the ER as an intern – about three weeks following graduation.

As you were training to be a physician, what one piece of advice could you not have done without? Listen to the patient – they'll often tell you what's wrong. This was way before CT's, MRI's, extensive lab tests.

What advice would you give to medical students graduating in the class of 2007? Be sure you like what you're doing.

What is the most significant medical innovation you experienced in your years of practice. Discovery and availability of furosemide – gave more relief and saved more lives than any other single medication.

What regrets, if any, do you have about your medical career? I should have spent more time with my family. I worked very hard getting started.

Is there one patient, situation or incident that stands out above all others in your career? An elderly lady told me what a wonderful doctor my father was. She then said, "He's gone and now his mantle rests on your shoulders."