

Chin Mook Chung, M.D.

Dr. Chin Mook Chung, a 1957 graduate of Seoul National University Medical School and otolaryngologist (ENT), died October 15, 2017 in Johnson City, TN after a brief illness.

Dr. Chung was born on January 3, 1932 in Gyeongsang Nam Do, Yangsan, South Korea. He was raised and educated in Seoul, attending Kyung Bock High School. He was an avid athlete and was captain of the Korean national volleyball team in his 20s. Along with many of his SNU classmates, Dr. Chung served in the South Korean military (Navy). His medical education was interrupted by the war and after graduation, he was among the first wave of post-war immigrants to the United States. Dr. Chung arrived in Knoxville, Tennessee for graduate medical training in 1957. After his internship, he went on to complete an ENT residency at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

After fellowship training in Montreal, Canada and short periods of clinical practice in Racine, Wisconsin and Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Chung established a solo practice of otolaryngology in Lima, Ohio in 1967. He was a skilled surgeon specializing in microsurgery of the ear. He also had an extensive general ENT practice and cared for countless patients over 28 years, performing over 10,000 tonsillectomies without a single case of hemorrhage. It was in Lima that he and his wife, Hak Soon Lee Chung, raised their four daughters. As the eldest son, he was later responsible for bringing his mother and three siblings and their families to the U.S. in the 1970s.

After retirement, Dr. and Mrs. Chung moved to Windermere, Florida where they golfed regularly and hosted many friends and family members over a twenty-year period. Later in life, he developed an intense interest in Chinese calligraphy and poetry. His other interests included reading Japanese literature and history, and ballroom dancing with his wife.

Dr. Chung is survived by his wife of 60 years, Hak Soon Lee Chung and four daughters, Sue (Johnson City, TN), Carol (Columbus, OH), Joyce (Washington, DC) and Catherine (Johnson City, TN), ten grandchildren and one great grandson.