



Sherwood R. Steadman
1907 - 1984

Sherwood R. Steadman

Sherwood Reed Steadman's quiet, unassuming competence has been a part of the lives of countless orthodontists since their entry into the profession, beginning in the student years for many Minnesotans. He died in Duluth on September 16, 1984, a few days after suffering a stroke at his summer home near Two Harbors on the North shore of Lake Superior.

He was a second-generation orthodontist, born in White Bear Lake, Minnesota on June 19, 1907. His father, Dr. Guy Steadman, was a 1910 graduate of Dr. Edward H. Angle's school of Orthodontia in New London, Connecticut.

An Honors graduate of Princeton in 1929, Sherwood was later elected to Omicron Kappa Upsilon honorary fraternity at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, where he received his D.D.S. degree in 1932. He next became one of the early students of Dr. Allan Brodie at the Department of Orthodontia of the University of Illinois, where he was awarded a Master of Science degree in 1934.

He then returned to St. Paul, where he continued his father's orthodontic practice. A lifelong student, teacher and researcher, he earned the Certificate of a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics in 1942.

In 1946, Sherwood was appointed Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthodontics at the University of Minnesota, where he pioneered development of the Postgraduate and Graduate programs in Orthodontics based on the comprehensive Angle Edgewise principles. He became Acting Chairman of the Orthodontic Division in 1957, continuing in that capacity through 1965. Even after retiring from the Chairmanship, he remained on the staff and continued his graduate student lectures.

Always active in dentistry, he served as secretary of the St. Paul District Dental Society from 1936-1939, President of the Minnesota State Dental Association in 1948, and later as President of the St. Paul District Dental Society and Trustee of the Minnesota State Dental Association.

The St. Paul District Dental Society conferred its *Outstanding Service Award* on Sherwood Steadman in 1979.

He served as chairman of every committee in the Midwest Component of the Edward H. Angle Society at some time, and as its President in 1946. In the Minnesota section of the International Association for Dental Research, he served two widely separated terms as President in 1935 and again in 1960. He was also a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and of the Federation Dentaire Internationale.

Of all his associations and activities, he especially cherished his privilege of contributing to the study and research programs Angle Society, where his ongoing project on overbite produced twelve publications and many lectures.

Beyond his profession, he was an avid sailor, who taught and even authored a book on the principles of sailing. Sailing on Lake Superior with his family was one of his greatest pleasures.

Sherwood was respected and admired as a gentleman by all who were privileged to know him, and we will miss him in many ways. He will be especially long remembered and revered by his students, for he gave meaning and substance to orthodontic fundamentals, constantly focussing their views on growth, development, and the morphologic pattern. ●