WILLIAM NILES WISHARD, JR.
1898–1973

William Niles Wishard, Jr. was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on July 29, 1898. His family had practiced medicine in Marion County for a span of 150 years. His father, the late Dr. William Niles Wishard, Sr., was a pioneer in urology and was founder of the second school of nursing west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Bill was the author of more than 40 papers in the medical literature. He was listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the Midwest, Who's Who in Science and the Directory of International Biography.

Bill had been clinical professor of urology at Indiana University School of Medicine and a member of the board of the Methodist Hospital Foundation. His name and the memory of his service are preserved in an endowed professorship, the Wishard Visiting Professor of Urology, established in his honor at the Indiana University School of Medicine in 1969.

Bill graduated cum laude from Harvard University Medical School in 1925. He did his undergraduate work at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts. He was then appointed as surgical house officer at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. In 1928 he returned to Indianapolis and entered the private practice of urology with his father and Drs. Homer G. Hamer and Henry O. Mertz.

Bill Wishard was widely recognized as a master of his profession. He was the winner of many honors and was engaged during his lifetime in an awesome range of activities. His competence earned great respect for him in the community. He was deeply involved in related organizations at every level from the local to the national.

Bill was elected to active membership in this organization in 1939 and was its president in 1966. He served as secretary of the American Board of Urology from 1955 to 1968 and its president from 1968 to 1969. He was president of the North Central Section of the American Urological Association in 1951. He was a member of the American Urological Association, the American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons and the International Society of Urology.

His final honor, in recognition of the man that he was, came in May 1973 when he was presented the Ramon Guiteras Award by the American Urological Association at its annual meeting in New York, the highest honor the Association bestows.

Dr. William Niles Wishard, Jr. died on October 27, 1973. He is survived by his widow, Caroline; a daughter, Susan; 2 sons, William Niles Wishard, III and Gordon Davis Wishard; a brother, The Rev. C. Scoville Wishard and 5 grandchildren.

It is indeed fortunate that each generation produces an individual whose knowledge, integrity, leadership and compassion set a level which the rest of mankind can measure itself against and in so doing can itself become better. Such a man was William Niles Wishard, Jr.