Duane G. Mezwa, MD

It is a unique honor for me to present the tribute for Duane G. Mezwa, MD, as he accepts the Association of Program Directors in Radiology 2012 Achievement Award. I have known Duane for over 25 years, and I can't think of anyone more deserving.

Duane is a native lifelong Michigander. Duane obtained his undergraduate degree from Wayne State University in Detroit and also graduated from its medical school. He then became a radiology resident at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan, where he was chief resident, and he has stayed there as a faculty member for the past 29 years. Dr Mezwa has served as chief of gastrointestinal radiology at William Beaumont, as well as residency program director. He was then promoted to department vice chair.

Dr Mezwa is currently chair of the Department of Radiology at William Beaumont, corporate chief of radiological services for the Beaumont system, and professor of diagnostic radiology and molecular imaging at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Dr Mezwa is a well-known author and lecturer on topics related to gastrointestinal radiology. He has authored 20 peer-reviewed articles, several books and book chapters, and innumerable scientific exhibits and national presentations, all related to his area of clinical interest. He has also served as a visiting professor all over the country—twice for me in my two different departments a decade apart.

However, it is in organized radiology and radiologic education that Duane has really left his mark. He has been a member of multiple committees for the American College of Radiology (ACR), for both the Commission on Economics and the Commission on Education, and has been an ACR Fellow for 15 years. In his home state, he has served as president of the Michigan Radiological Society and in 2011 received its Gold Medal. He also received the Health Care Leadership Award in 2010 from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association.

Education has always been Duane’s first love. As you all know, Duane has been president of the Association of Program Directors in Radiology and still serves as its SCARD liaison. In 2002, he was selected to be the gastrointestinal radiology trustee on the American Board of Radiology. In addition, last year he was selected to become a member of the Diagnostic Radiology Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Duane and his wife, Vera, are extremely proud of their children: Cristina, 26, who works in security and will be married in September to Mark Rockwell after graduating from Michigan State University with a masters in law enforcement intelligence; Alaina, 22, who will soon graduate from the University of Michigan with a degree in neuropsychology; and Kate, 18, who is a freshman at Michigan with an interest in international relations. Duane’s favorite pastime is traveling with the family, and he has enjoyed trips to the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador, as well as a 2-week trip to the Amazon. You can tell a lot about a person from his or her other extracurricular activities. For the past 15 years, Duane has been one of 150 Detroit leaders known as the Distinguished Clown Corps and has marched in the Detroit Thanksgiving Day parade all those years.

Dr Mezwa has been a wonderful champion for radiology and radiologic education, and he has been a fabulous friend to many of us in APDR for many years. It is a wonderful honor for me to present him to APDR as its 2012 Achievement Award winner.