In loving memory



Warren E. Weaver 1921-2014

## **Editor's Note**

It is with mixed feelings of sadness and rejoicing that we dedicate this issue to Warren Weaver PhD, who met his Lord on Sunday, July 10, 2014 at the age of 93. Fred and Peggy Eckel and Dan Hussar represented CPFI at Dr Weaver's funeral. I recall first meeting Warren at a CPFI prayer meeting during an ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. As a relatively new pharmacist it was encouraging to see an individual of his accomplishments take a leadership role in standing for his faith in Christ and being involved in the founding of CPFI. Not only was he involved in the establishment of CPFI as an organization, his accomplishments in the profession of pharmacy were no less significant. In his role as Dean of the Medical College of Virginia School of Pharmacy, he was instrumental in shaping pharmacy education and contributing to the development of many individuals who now are leaders in the profession. While his name may be unknown to many in the future, his legacy in pharmacy and CPFI will have a lasting impact on all of us. May we all strive for excellence in our profession and faith as did Warren Weaver. 75

## In loving memory, of Warren E. Weaver PhD

by Ron Herman, Ph.D., R.Ph., CPFI Executive Director

Warren Eldred Weaver PhD, 93, of Richmond, VA passed away on July 10, 2014. He had a long and fulfilling life, and his family, friends and colleagues acknowledge that he was beloved by all who knew him. Born June 5, 1921 in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of Charles and Goldie Weaver.

He received a B.Sc.in pharmacy from the University of Maryland (1942) and a Ph.D. in pharmaceutical chemistry from there in 1947, and served as a master chemist in the navy during World War II before moving to Richmond, VA to teach at the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) School of Pharmacy. He served as dean of the school of Pharmacy at MCV from 1956-1981 before retiring and beginning his "second career" as founder, then president and eventually executive director of the Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International.

He was preceded in death by his first wife of 23 years, Virginia June Weaver and a son, David Charles Weaver, stepson Wayne McDaniel and stepdaughter, Debra McDaniel. He leaves behind a loving family who will miss him dearly, wife, Esther S. Weaver, son, Glenn H. Weaver and wife Laura, and 3 daughters, Karen Rhoads and husband Jim, Janet Wagstaff, Julie W. Fortner and husband Glenn, stepdaughter Barbara M. Adair and husband Ted, a brother, Norman H. Weaver, 7 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

Warren wrote an article in the inaugural edition of the CPFI Journal, Christianity and Pharmacy, in 1996 about his spiritual journey (Weaver WE: A Man with a Mission. Christianity & Pharmacy 1996 1:18-20). Following the death of his first wife and marriage to Esther he had a step son, Wayne, who was not happy with his new blended family. After a period of rebellion he was dramatically changed as he entered into a new found relationship with Christ. The dramatic change in Wayne started a quest for Warren that led to the surrender of his life to follow Jesus in June 1973. Over the next 8 years he began to grow in his walk and became very involved in ministry activities and sharing his new found faith as often as he could. He chose an early retirement in 1981 so that he could devote full time to spiritual ministry. In a separate article in that journal he told about his activities in the late seventies and early eighties that led to the formation of Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International. (Weaver WE: The History of Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International. Christianity & Pharmacy 1996 1:5-9)

Early in his spiritual journey Warren became involved in several market place ministries, including the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International, Needles Eye Ministries, and many church activities. There was a Christian Medical Society chapter at his campus, but they did not have a means to allow pharmacist or pharmacy student members. After years of hosting prayer breakfasts or luncheons at various professional pharmacy meetings, the Lord led Warren and a group of other committed believers to start the Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International and the organization was incorporate in 1984. For over 20

years he poured his life and heart in to seeing this market place ministry focused on pharmacy grow into a strong ministry.

Honoring a person like Warren is easy, because he was a humble man and seemed to always be focused on others. He was very involved in church activities, engaging with parachurch organizations on campus and reaching out to students in need. He regularly visited a nursing home leading worship times and befriending the lonely and just being a blessing to all he met. This compassion extended to their home as well when Esther and Warren freely opened their home to accommodate a pharmacist missionary traveling with an African colleague as they attended a professional pharmacy meeting nearby. Warren often spoke of following Christ's example to be a blessing to others and then would go on to humbly say that in the process I seem to be the one who is blessed beyond measure.

CPFI decided to honor his humble services by establishing the Warren E. Weaver award that identifies yearly the person who most exemplifies the Lords's example of service to others. Warren was the inaugural recipient and it has been given out 20 times since honoring many faithful men and women who have followed the example of Christ and Warren and have diligently served others and our pharmacy profession.

Fred Eckel, the current President of CPFI reflected on the impact that Warren has had and commented that he first became acquainted with Warren Weaver the professional

man because of his leadership role in American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy as well as the American Pharmaceutical Association, now American Pharmacist Association. Because I wanted to become a pharmacy leader myself I always studied those in leadership to see what I could learn from them. Warren Weaver was the true servant leader, humble in spirit but focused on helping others accomplish their goals. When Warren began to lead prayer breakfasts at National Pharmacy meetings after his conversion I attended some of them. I got to know Warren not only as a professional leader but as a Christian brother. I wanted to make the Lord first in my life but struggled to always live the way I felt God wanted me to live. I saw in Warren Weaver a role model to follow because he demonstrated in all his interactions that Jesus was first in his life. I was fortunate to be able work with Warren in CPFI in the early years of the ministry. I listened to his vision for the Organization, I

occasionally offered my perspective and I watched as the Lord blessed CPFI. The many hours that I spent in prayer and discussions with Warren Weaver were very beneficial for me. I have felt blessed in my life and knowing and working closely with Warren Weaver have contributed to my feeling of being blessed. Warren will be missed but he left us a legacy to continue.

Former president of CPFI, Keith Allhands, recalls that one of the ways we would take roll call in our Board of Directors meetings in the early days of CPFI, would be to say a favorite Bible verse. Warren's verses would always be: "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." [Philippians 2:3-4 (NKJV)] These were words that Warren literally lived by. He gave money to missionaries and those in need, even though he and Esther

were on a retired professor's fixedincome. Warren and Esther always considered what they had materially was the Lord's and it was His to use where needed.

Warren also had the divine gift of being able to teach others by example and encouragement. One of the duties while master chemist for the US Navy during World War II was that of research. Warren helped the Navy by perfecting an antifungal that was used on the war-time boats and ships to prevent "barnacles" from growing so quickly in the tropical seas. This not only helped with less maintenance of our sea-going vessels but also allowed them to sail quicker through the waters. Even by the early 1990's he still had a couple of projects that he worked on during those years that were still considered government classified information and he was not at liberty to disclose this achievements. Warren was a remarkable man and we dedicate this issue of the journal to his memory. 🕅