ARCHIVES

OF

FAMILY MEDICINE

DECEMBER 1993

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Dr Bob Bomengen, AAFP Family Doctor of the Year, with his family in Lakeview, Oregon. See Family Album, page 1224.

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ATTITUDES OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS TO NONCONVENTIONAL THERAPIES: A CHALLENGE TO SCIENCE AS THE BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS

L. Schachter, M. A. Weingarten, E. E. Kahan

American Medical Association

Physicians dedicated to the health of America



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Bob Bomengen, MD



Dr Bomengen with wife Mavis, daughter Heidi, and son Travis at home in Lakeview, Ore.

Photograph by Creative Photography.

I attended medical school at the University of Oregon. I was doing a residency in general surgery at the University of Utah, on my way to a career in orthopedics, when a professor encouraged me to look at the Crow-Cheyenne reservation hospital in Crow Agency, Montana. That is how I got interested in rural family practice.

I remember delivering an infant at 1 AM and thinking sadly, "This is the last infant I'll ever deliver." My wife said, "Why don't you stay with family practice since you love it so much?"

In Oregon, I am active in setting up a new rural family residency program and have third-year residents work with me in my practice. But how do you pass on values? How do you teach compassion? The only way to make the point is by example.

It is a myth to think that your position will bring happiness in life. The secret is to feel deeply, to share life, and to be needed.

Editor's Note

The Archives would like to have you in our "Family Album." Send your submissions c/o the Editor. We are interested in high-quality color slides of family physicians involved with their work, with their own families, and in other interesting settings. Be sure to include your name, address, and daytime telephone number.

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Announcement

Revision of American Medical Association Style Manual Begins: Call for Comments

Work is beginning on the ninth edition of the AMA Manual of Style. If you have any suggestions for inclusion or any requests for new or different material that would make the manual more useful to you, please send them to Cheryl Iverson, Director, Editorial Processing Division, Scientific Publications, American Medical Association, 515 N State St, Chicago, IL 60610 (fax: 312-464-5996).