



Dr. Nadine Genet Smith Ide

June 28, 1927 - December 19, 2023

Dr. Nadine G. Smith, the first board certified woman dermatologist in Minnesota and a past president of four boards at the University of Minnesota, died on December 19 of complications from a stroke at the N.C. Little Memorial Hospice in Edina. She was 96.

Smith, of Golden Valley, grew up in St. Paul and graduated from Smith College and then from the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1952, one of only five women in her medical school class. She once recalled: "The guys at my anatomy table would say, 'You know, you are just going to finish medical school and then stay home and have children.' It irritated me so much that I practiced for 40 years."

At the beginning of her career, Smith shared a private practice with Dr. Robert Goltz and then with Dr. Ken Manick. After they retired, she practiced alone for 15 years until she was joined by her son, Dr. Arthur W. Ide III. When Smith retired in 1992, her son took over the practice.

In addition to being a widely respected and beloved doctor, Smith was a lifelong volunteer at the University of Minnesota. She taught dermatology to medical students and residents from 1957-1994, and she served for 17 years on the board of the Minnesota Medical Foundation (the former fund-raising organization for the medical school). From 1988-90, she was the MMF's board

president, the first woman to hold that position. She was instrumental in raising the money to endow the world's first professorship in pediatric dermatology at the university. Smith also served on the boards and as president of three other university organizations: the Minnesota Alumni Association, the University of Minnesota Alumnae Society, and the Minnesota Medical Alumni Society.

Smith's work for the university was recognized in 1989, when she was given the Alumni Service Award. It described her as "an ardent and respected supporter of the University of Minnesota" and "a distinguished and motivating leader." She was also named a member of the President's Club of the university, the Woman Physician of the Year in 1992 by the Minnesota Women's Medical Society and AEI, and was the recipient of the WCCO Good Neighbor Award in 1988.

In 1951, Smith married the surgeon Dr. Arthur Ide, Jr., who went on to serve as chief of staff at Eitel Hospital and to work for 40 years at the Park Nicollet Clinic. (Smith was also known as Nadine Ide.) A devoted mother of four children, she was also a lifelong sports and outdoors enthusiast, jumping horses and flying planes as a young woman and playing tennis, skiing, hiking, fishing, duck hunting and golfing as an adult. She was an avid reader and a longtime member of the Minneapolis women's scholarly club, Peripatetics. A dedicated cook, gardener, and world traveler, Smith would return from her far-flung trips to head to the places she loved best, family cabins in Whitefish, Montana, and in northern Minnesota.

A year after her husband died in 2003, Smith reunited with a former teenage sweetheart, Howard Stephenson, the former board chairman and CEO of the Bank of Hawaii. They were still together when she died this week after a brief illness.

Smith is survived by her children, Genet M. Elliott-Ide of Fountain Hills, Arizona, Dr. Arthur W. Ide III of Minneapolis, Karolyn K. Ide of Maplewood, New Jersey, and J. Warner Ide of Hudson, Wisconsin. Survivors also include 13 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and her brother, J. Bradner Smith of St. Paul.

Services will be for family only. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the University of Minnesota Foundation at giving.umn.edu or 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 500, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Please request that gifts be directed to the University of Minnesota Medical School.

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