

2011 HONORED ALUMNI

The Andrews University Alumni Association Medallion is presented to honored alumni who have been nominated by fellow alumni and approved by the Alumni Board of Directors to be recipients of this award. Please contact the Alumni Office to nominate a fellow alum for this award. Honored Alumni are selected on the basis of outstanding service to the University, unusual achievement in a profession or occupation, and contributions to the community or church. Congratulations to this year's recipients.

Gary L. Case

(BS '91)

Born in Loma Linda, Calif., Case received a Bachelor of Science in physics from Andrews in 1991. He then received a master's in physics in 1993 and a PhD in physics in 1998 from the University of California, Riverside.

Case began his career as a postdoctoral researcher at Louisiana State University in 1998, where he remained until 2004 before moving to Southern University, Baton Rouge. He worked as a researcher at Southern until 2007, when he returned to LSU as a senior postdoctoral researcher.



President Andreasen presented the citation for Gary Case at Pioneer Memorial Church. L-R: Niels-Erik Andreasen, Gary Case, Deanna Wickersheim Case

While at LSU, Case designed and built a prototype gamma-ray instrument that was successfully tested in 1999, 2001 and 2003 at the European Center for Nuclear Research. This instrument demonstrated a novel technique for determining the energy of high-energy cosmic rays for a proposed Space Station experiment. In 2005, he built an instrument to test a new detector material in a near-space environment, and spent six weeks in Antarctica flying the experiment on a high-altitude balloon.

In 2010, Case and a team at LSU and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center analyzed data from the Fermi gamma-ray satellite and discovered that the Crab Nebula, used as a standard x-ray and gamma-ray satellite instrument calibration, was not constant as had been

commonly assumed. After verification, this result was published and selected by NASA for a press release.

Case has presented his research at conferences around the world, and given talks on gamma-ray studies of galactic black holes at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and conferences in Berlin, Germany and Calcutta, India.

Gary is married to Deanna Wickersheim. He is an active member of the Baton Rouge Seventh-day Adventist Church, serving on the school board and as treasurer of the Baton Rouge Adventist Christian School, and as a member of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference K-12 Board.

Lynn S. Gray

(BA '71)

Gray received a BA in biology from Andrews University in 1971. He earned an MD in 1975 from the University of Michigan Medical School and a MPH from Loma Linda University's School of Public Health in Hindsale, Ill., in 1994. His residency was at the Grand Rapids Area Medical Education Center, from 1975-1978.



Lynn Gray received his honored alumna medallion at the BSCF Reunion Service held at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

From 1978 to 1979, Gray taught at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. He opened a practice of family medicine in Benton Harbor, Mich., in 1979, and transitioned to full-time emergency medicine in 1995.

He has held medical director positions for the Orchard Grove

Extended Care Facility, the Berrien County Jail and Planned Parenthood. He has served as a consultant to the Michigan Peer Review Organization and to Lakeland's Case Management and Performance Improvement departments. Gray has provided leadership as past-president and current member of the board to the Michigan Academy of Family Practice, and is also serving on the Boards of the Michigan State Medical Society, Andrews University and the Lakeland Specialty Hospital.

Recently, he accepted a part-time position as medical director of diversity at Lakeland HealthCare.

Gray has also participated in several relief mission projects in the past two years. He traveled with the United Hands Mission Group to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in June 2009. In the spring of 2010, he helped with postearthquake relief at the Adventist Hospital in Carrefour, Haiti. Most recently, he traveled with the United Hands Mission Group to Jamaica in June 2011.

He says, "The friends I made at Andrews University are not just friends for life, but brothers and sisters I expect to see in heaven. Andrews University set the foundation for a life of service to God and my fellow man."

Lynn is married to **Deborah (Dowdell) Gray** (BS '72, MA '83, EdD '94). They have three children: Stephen, a physician who works in Birmingham, Ala., Jennifer, an attorney for the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C., and Matthew, a dentist in Detroit, Mich.

Jeffrey Sajdak

(BBA '91)

Jeffrey Sajdak received a BBA in marketing from Andrews University in 1991, and went on to receive his JD from the Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis, Ind., in 1994.

Since graduating from Andrews, Sajdak has worked for the U.S. Customs Border Protection's Office of Assistant Chief Counsel in Indianapolis. He began as a law clerk, and after serving as general attorney and senior attorney, assumed his current position as deputy assistant chief counsel.

The assistant chief counsel serves as one of the principal legal advisors to CBP on trade and fiscal matters. With a staff of 28, the ACC serves an agency of over 50,000 employees, handling all bankruptcy matters, claims in receiverships, and legal matters pertaining to the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act.

Sajdak has received numerous accolades and awards. Within the last four years he has received a U.S. Attorney's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Litigation, a Commissioner Merit Citation for legal work tied to the creation and development of CBP's Advanced Training Center in Harper's Ferry, a Commissioner Merit Citation for outstanding legal work as a member of ACC, and the Department of Homeland Security General Counsel Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Administrative Law. Last year, Sajdak was a panelist at the 16th Judicial Conference of the U.S. Court of International Trade. The paper he presented appeared in the *Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law*.

Jeff is married to **Betsy (Boehmke) Sajdak** (BS '91, MSPT '92) and is the proud father of two boys, Grant and Daniel. He has remained



President Andreasen congratulates Jeff Sajdak, while his wife Betsy and sons Daniel and Grant proudly look on.

active in the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a deacon, elder, leader of young adults, adult Sabbath School teacher and religious liberty leader.

He gives all the praise to God through whom all things are possible. While at Andrews, he was inspired by "so many staff members and professors not only personally committed to providing an excellent education, but exemplifying what it means to serve Christ."

Ella Louise Smith Simmons

(MA '81, Hon PedE '07)

Born and raised in Louisville, Ky., Simmons joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church at age 16. She holds a BS in elementary education from Indiana University; MA in curriculum, instruction and supervision from Andrews University; EdD in supervision, curriculum and administration from the University of Louisville; and Honoris Causa Doctor of Pedagogy from Andrews University.

Simmons is currently a general vice president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC). With a passion for education, she has been instrumental in university accreditation for almost 20 years.

In her present position, Simmons serves as an administrative advisor in the education and women's ministries departments of the GC, sits on the boards of several international educational institutions, including the Griggs University/International Academy Board of Trustees, and contributes to many other committees on evaluation and education, financial planning and women's ministries.

Prior to working at the GC, Simmons held administrative and faculty positions at various educational institutions, including La Sierra University, Riverside, Calif.; Oakwood College, Huntsville, Ala.; University of Louisville School of Education; and the College of Applied Sciences at Kentucky State University.

Simmons has served as a member of numerous GC committees,



A taped message from Ella Simmons, who was unable to attend Homecoming, was broadcast during the first service at Pioneer Memorial Church.



President Andreasen congratulates Dale Twomley just before he receives his medallion from Tami Condon (right), director of Alumni Services.

the Board of Trustees of Southern Adventist University, the Review Publishing Association Board of Directors and the Board of Examiners for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. She was also a research and development collaborator for Bank Street College and documentation researcher in the AT&T-sponsored Teachers for Tomorrow Program. Her research and creative activities, including funded grants, have focused on education for underrepresented groups.

Ella has been married to Nord Simmons for 43 years. Nord is a retired high-school teacher who served in public schools in Louisville for almost 30 years. Nord and Ella have two adult sons, Darryl and Christopher, one granddaughter, Jannette, and two grandsons, Evan and Connor.

Dale E. Twomley

(BS '61)

Twomley received a BS in business administration from Andrews University in 1961, completed pre-med requirements at Southern Adventist University in 1964, and went on to receive an MBA from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1966. He earned a PhD in administration from the University of Maryland in 1977.

Twomley began his career as a treasurer and teacher at Greater New York Academy, Woodside, N.Y. Between the years of 1964 and 1974, he served as treasurer and teacher at Takoma Academy, principal and business manager at South Lancaster Academy, and assistant business manager at Columbia Union College. In 1974, Twomley became principal of Shenandoah Valley Academy and nearly doubled their enrollment over a period of four years.

He returned to Andrews University in 1978 as the chair of the Department of Business Administration, and was named the first dean of the School of Business Administration. Enrollment increased from 180 to 260 under the five years of his leadership. In 1983, he became

the vice president for planning and development at Worthington Foods, Inc., and worked his way up to become chairman, president and CEO of the company in 1999.

Upon his retirement in 2001, Twomley chose to reinvent himself rather than retire, dedicating his time, influence and expertise to the improvement of the Adventist educational system. His mantra is, "If we're going to have Adventist education, let's have it be the best." He assisted four struggling Adventist academies, significantly improving their facilities, quality and enrollment: Mount Vernon Academy, Shenandoah Valley Academy, Takoma Academy and Fletcher Academy, Inc., where he currently serves as president/CEO.

Twomley served as a member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees from 1986–2008 and was a cofounder of the President's Council, which plays a key role in laying out goals and priorities for the University's future.

He is married to Constance (Funk) Twomley. They have two sons, Jonathan and Robert.