

## New Dentist Leadership Award

Dr. Paul A. Kennedy III of Corpus Christi (left) is Texas Dental Association's outstanding new dentist leader of the year. After graduating from the University of the Pacific Art Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2001, Dr. Kennedy relocated to Texas and has been very active on district and state levels as well as his local community. He is currently a member of the TDA Committee on the New Dentist. Presenting the award is Dr. John Baucum.



## Obituary

### MERLE ELGIN MORRIS

Dr. Merle Elgin Morris, age 88, died March 21, 2010. He was born April 3, 1921, in Orderville, Utah to Elgin Henry and Julia Esplin Morris. He married Pearl Carpenter June 23, 1942, in the St. George LDS Temple.

A 1954 graduate of the University of California San Francisco School of Dentistry, Morris practiced pediatric dentistry for over 40 years in the Bay Area. He retired as a Tenured Clinical Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at UCSF (having served as chair of the Division of Pediatric Dentistry at the UCSF School of Dentistry). During his service at UCSF, he was responsible for the formation of the original Division of Pedodontics and for the development and initial accreditation of the Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry. He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a charter member of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry.

He served in the Air Force during World War II. As part of his service, he particularly cherished his years contributing to the rebuilding of Japan and had the pleasure of sharing this experience with his wife and first child. His ties with Japan remained strong, and he returned there many times to

lecture and teach at various dental institutions, including the Fukuoka Dental College. Additionally, he had lecture and teaching opportunities in Mexico, Peru, Israel and Yugoslavia.

For many years, Morris worked with his UCSF colleagues in mobile dental clinics to bring dental health care to migrant farm workers in California's Central Valley as well as kibbutzim in Israel, and communities in the former Yugoslavia.

After his retirement, Morris continued his association with the university and as a member of the attending dental staff of Children's Hospital Medical Center, Oakland. He was active in his church and was involved for years with the Boy Scouts of America.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl. His children are Victoria Ann Gould, who predeceased him; Merle Elgin Morris, Jr. (Mel), Fort Worth, Texas; Linda Marie Morris, Orinda; Arlynn Morris Chen, Elk Grove; James Richard Morris, Emeryville; Lawrence Rodney Morris, Spring, Texas; and Jon Robert Morris, Vancouver, Wash. He is also survived by 19 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

### MIKE NOONAN

Dr. Melvin A. "Mike" Noonan, age 91, died peacefully at Sanctuary at Bellbrook in Rochester Hills on Jan. 1, 2010. Noonan served in the U.S. Army in WW II. Noonan was a longtime pediatric dentist in the Birmingham area. Noonan wrote a book about his experiences as a dentist entitled "They Never Came Back: How to Lose Patients."

Noonan was married to Laurene E. (nee Scriven) for 66 years. They raised three children: Timothy A.; Brian A., D.D.S.; and Thomas C. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.