

Peter J. Fowler, MD**1938-**

Peter John Fowler (Pete) was born in London, Ontario and grew up in Woodstock, a small town just east of London. He obtained both an Honours B.A. in what was then known as “Physical Health and Recreational Education”, and his Medical Degree from The University of Western Ontario. In 1964, on the Saturday following his graduation from medical school, he married Elizabeth (Libby) McAskile, his “high-school sweetheart”.

In 1965, while interning in general surgery at the University of Michigan Pete decided to become an orthopaedic surgeon. He was accepted into the orthopaedic residency programme at Michigan, but Dr. J.C. Kennedy had decided to establish just such a programme at Western and convinced Pete to return to London to become its first resident. Pete had first met Dr. Kennedy when, as a member of the university’s swim team, he developed “swimmer’s shoulder”. Dr. Kennedy, who looked after Western’s athletes, treated the injury, and so began an association that would continue until Dr. Kennedy’s death in 1983.

Following his orthopaedic residency, Pete completed a fellowship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina, an institution with which he has maintained close personal and professional ties. He returned to London in 1970 and began his orthopaedic practice, which was at first general in nature. With developments in arthroscopy, and the emergence of Sport Medicine as a specialty, he was soon able to devote his career to the care of activity related injuries, particularly to those of the knee and the shoulder.

Pete was appointed Medical Director of the Fowler Kennedy Sport Medicine Clinic (formerly known as the J.C. Kennedy Athletic Injuries Clinic) in 1982 and Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Western Ontario in 1986. In recent years, his practice has been almost exclusively dedicated to management of the injured knee, with alignment problems of the lower limb a focal point of his interest and research. He continues to be an educator and mentor to students, residents and fellows.

Pete has been physician in charge of The University of Western Ontario athletic teams since 1982 and was named Orthopaedic consultant to the Canadian teams for the 1975 Pan American Games and the 1980 Summer Olympics. He served as Canada’s

chief medical officer for the 1984 Winter Olympics and both the 1990 and 1998 Commonwealth Games.

The highlights of Pete Fowler's life include: winning a silver medal for swimming in the 1959 Pan American Games; his induction into the University of Western Ontario Sports Hall of Fame in 1985, and into the London Ontario Sports Hall of Fame in 2002; receiving the Canadian Orthopaedic Association Award of Excellence in 1998; being selected "Godfather" for The AOSSM Travelling Fellowship in 2000, and being named president of the Canadian Academy of Sport Medicine in 1980, of ISAKOS in 1995, and of the AOSSM in 2002. Another notable highlight occurred in September of 1996 when plans to expand the J.C. Kennedy Athletic Injuries Clinic came to fruition and the newly named Fowler Kennedy Sport Medicine Clinic was officially opened.

Early in 2007, Pete accepted his current position as Chief Medical Officer of the Qatar Orthopaedic and Sport Medicine Hospital in Doha, Qatar.

Pete and Libby have four children, Tim, Megan, Cam and Peter Jr., two daughters-in-law Jacquie and Tori, and are proud grandparents of Madeleine, Ryley, Grace, Henry and Max.