

Robert P. Mack, M.D.

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Robert P. Mack graduated from McKinley High School in Canton, Ohio in 1953. He graduated from Princeton University in 1957. He played football at both schools. Dr. Mack attended Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Medical School and completed his Orthopaedic training at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio in 1966.

Dr. Mack served two years in the U.S. Air Force in Bitburg, Germany as Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at the 36th TAC Hospital. He returned to Cleveland, Ohio in 1968 as an Assistant Professor of Orthopaedics at CWRU and became Chief of Orthopaedics at Metropolitan General Hospital, where he was responsible for clinical care and residency training, a position he held until 1977. In 1972, he founded the Rainbow Sports Medicine Center at University Hospitals in Cleveland.

Laboratory research conducted during that time period resulted in the development of an internationally accepted device for testing ski bindings. Data from that research showed that not one of the existing ski bindings were safe. This resulted in the formation of the ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) F-8 Ski Safety Committee that established safety standards for ski bindings. The net result of this research was the virtual elimination of tibia fractures in alpine skiing.

Another unique program created and developed by Dr. Mack and Rainbow Sports Medicine Center was the establishment of a High School Junior Athletic Trainer Program, a program whereby inner city schools were covered by sideline trainers for athletic injuries.

In June, 1977, Dr. Mack moved to Denver, Colorado to join the Denver Orthopaedic Clinic in full time private practice. Dr. John Leidholt, a founding member member of AOSSM, was a senior partner.

Dr. Mack joined AOSSM in 1974. He served on the Membership Committee from 1981-87. He was Treasurer and a member of the Board of Trustees from 1989 - 1994. He has served on multiple committees, including the Council of Delegates.

Dr. Mack's contribution as a team doctor is extensive, continuously covering multiple high school teams throughout his career, as well as professional hockey, as team doctor for the Cleveland Crusaders/Barons from 1972-1977. He served as an original member of the U.S. Ski Team Physician's Group from 1972 -1985.

AAOS Sports Medicine Activities: Sports Medicine Committee 1975-82. Dr. Mack served as Chairman of the continuing education course: “Winter Sports Injuries” in 1977 in Sun Valley, Idaho. He served as Chairman of the continuing education course: “The Foot and Leg in Running Sports” in 1983 in San Diego, California. This course resulted in a published monograph edited by Dr. Mack.

He has contributed 24 publications and 133 presentations during a long and satisfying orthopaedic career. He is blessed with his wife Patty, his three children and 9 grandchildren.