

Carter R. Rowe, MD
1907-2001

Carter R. Rowe, M.D., an internationally prominent orthopaedic surgeon and educator, died peacefully on June 25, 2001 at the age of ninety-four. He was best known for his contributions to shoulder surgery. He elucidated many of the modern concepts, findings and management of atraumatic and voluntary shoulder instability. He helped perfect the Bankart procedure for anterior shoulder instability.

Carter Rowe was a pioneer in sports medicine. Long before sports medicine developed as a recognized specialty, he advocated many of the surgical principle we follow today: anatomic dissection and repair and early range of motion. He was a consultant to the Boston Bruins for many years and treated many well-known athletes. He was a Founding Member of the AOSSM (1972). He was also a Founding Member of the American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons and its second President (1984). He was Treasurer of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (1964) and President of the American Orthopaedic Association (1969).

Carter Rowe epitomized the finest qualities of a physician and surgeon. He was a truly caring person who treated everyone with kindness, dignity, and respect. Never petty, never parochial, Carter was a man of character with a clear vision for the future of orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine. He made many lasting contributions to orthopaedics and was a driving force in the development of sports medicine as a specialty.