QUOTATIONS OF CHAIRMAN GEORGE

compiled by THE CLASS OF 1974
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"I GOTTA LAUGH"
"Remember... that it is not possible to produce a pill that would result in a satisfactory response in every patient."

am H.J. 84, 1972

"It is no more possible for a pharmaceutical manufacturer to produce a universal pill than it is for a sugar refinery to produce a sugar cube that would sweeten the coffee of 200 million Americans just right."

am H.J. 84, 1972

"The practice of improperly feeding and overfeeding seriously ill patients in American hospitals is a therapeutically deplorable one. It would appear that patients enter hospitals to eat."

am H.J. 85, 1973

"Sick people should have 'sick people's food'."

am H.J. 85, 1973
Too many patients are treated by committee. Patients and their families need one private doctor, not a committee.

Every person or family needs one doctor, not an institution or building, for the best and most satisfying medical care.

am H.J. 87, 1974

"Let's look at this from the standpoint of the patient."

"Cardiac Cath... You know, I gotta laugh. I could have told you she had left ventricular failure. She didn't need a cardiac cath., she needed a doctor."

"Pulmonary function studies, you know, I gotta laugh."

"Renal Team... You know, I gotta laugh. What this patient didn't need was a renal team, what this patient needed was a doctor."
"One disease process can't explain all the symptoms a patient has. Where you guys got that idea, I'll never know."

"Skinny people never die, I tell all my patient that."

"Where did you learn your basic sciences, LSU."

"Serum digoxin levels... you know, I gotta laugh."

"I've never made anyone dig. toxic. I've taken a lot of patients out of it."

On Nephrology: "If you want to know about renal disease, don't ask a nephrologist ... all you need to practice good renal medicine is a urinometer and a microscope."
On Bardex catheters: "Personally I use #11 French catheters. I don't want to knock off one epithelial cell.

Some people use Bardex catheters, they blow up the balloons - then the doctor pulls on it, the nurse pulls on it - the family is impressed, the patient is impressed, the nurse is impressed, the doctor is impressed - but it's harmful and I don't do it."

"If the country threw away transplant and dialysis and studied urinalysis, it would be a hell of a lot better off."

On venous stasis and pulmonary embolism: "We used to keep TB patients in bed ten years and we never had that problem."

"Can atrial fibrillation be a normal finding? How would you like to have atrial fibrillation?"
"Osmolality... save that for Ferguson."

"Nah!"

"Pediatrics, that's just Medicine for little people."

"Physiologic saline, I gotta laugh. There's nothing as unphysiologic as physiologic saline. I give 'em chicken soup."
"IT'S THE GOD'S TRUTH"
"Unfortunately, most students and clinicians do not apply themselves adequately to the study of medicine.... The problem is not that there is too much to learn, but rather that there are too many distractions. The undergraduate medical student and physician, too, devote too much time to other interests--television, vacations, country clubs, automobiles, household gadgets, travel, movies, races, cards, house, hunting, fishing, swimming, concerts, museums, hospital administration, newspapers, newsmagazines, politics, civic committees, and night clubs. Such interests leave little time for medicine."

am J. of C. 22, 1968.

"The devoted clinician obtains the greatest of pleasure from his work. He enjoys study, clinical practice, and his patients more than anything else. He does not need to force himself to study and work
with patients. The many distractions which are so attractive to others are unpleasant to him."

"am J. of C. 22, '68.

"To the master cardiologist, the study of cardiology is the only pleasure."

"am J. of C., 22 '68.

"In the Cardiology boards... "Questions about V_{\text{max}}...you don’t need that to practice good cardiology in LaPlace."

"How much bicarbonate do you give a person to alkalize his urine? (Ans.) Just the right amount. There are 200 million Americans in this country and they’re all different."

"How much insulin do you give a diabetic...just the right amount."
If you took a five-ton truck and filled it with protein and dumped it into the Pacific, mixed it up and took a test tube to the Pacific Ocean, somewhere around Los Angeles and filled it up, how much protein would you have...nothing."

"To be a good surgeon you need to be a good doctor, not just a good technician...my colored lab assistant can dissect out rat hearts as well as anyone - he's a great technician...but he's not a doctor."

"There are three words you know are always said by a surgeon - challenge, compromise, and salvage."

"...neomycin irrigation? You talk like a surgeon."
Mediastinoscopy, Christ!

I'm not anti-surgery, I'm just pro-patient.

I'm not trying to be facetious, this is the God's truth.

The alligator treatment—"Just make like an alligator today. Just lie around and blink twice a day, once in the morning and once in the evening."

For Angina—"You know the first order I write...Discontinue all hospital routine."

My second order is—sick people's food.

The colon bacillus...a very complex organism, you don't believe it...try to build one."
"Have you been douching with Lysol?" "Do you use Vicks in your nose?"

"Eat like a Hindu, anything that grows under the ground is alright, anything that crawls on the ground, watch out." (diet for Ac,Glom. Neph)

"My classification of kidney disease is good... I know they call me old fashioned, against progress, but its good. You think old things are bad... Why do people collect antiques?"

"The people of America are beating the doctors of America from all directions. If you're not prepared for it, it will hurt you; if you're prepared for it, you can laugh it off."

"Rauwolfia Serpentina...it's 6000 years
old. It's one of the oldest drugs in the world. It's grown in the foothills of the Himalayas. I tell all my patients that. They're impressed."

"I haven't been examined by a doctor since 1939..."

"Surgeons use statistics like a drunk uses a lamp post - more for support than for illumination."
"YOU CAN'T LEARN MEDICINE..."
"You can't learn medicine — water skiing."

"You can't learn medicine — at Lowes State."

"You can't learn medicine — in the Library."

"No doubt about it, you have to know your basic sciences. If you don't know your basic sciences you're going to be frustrated all your life, no doubt about it."

"Know your drugs. Don't give a drug unless you know all about it."

"Everyone going into Medicine should read a diet manual before he retires."

On books: "You'll never learn medicine with books or without them."

"Control your brain. Put your hands on the wheel and don't let your brain get out of control."
"Every student should read a monograph on every organ of the body; I don't mean just read - study."

"You see - that's the funny thing about medicine, you've got to know some facts."

"The two best tonics in the world are alcohol and money, no doubt about it. You don't believe me... just give a Tulane student money and watch him perk up."

"Don't spend your summers being a puppy dog in a white coat following some doctor around, you don't need summer jobs, none of you look like you're starving."

"Pathologists are like bankers. If Ludwig would come out of the grave, he could open his book and not be one day behind."
"Your not going to be a HeLa cell doctor, you're going to be a people doctor."

"Let me give you some fatherly advice: go to your lectures. know your basic sciences."

"Words are like numbers, If you say two, you mean two. You don't mean three."