

These Are The Giants

by John D. Kelly, IV, MD

Donald H. Johnson, MD has graced the sports medicine and arthroscopy universe for over three decades. He has done more to promote the education and advancement of arthroscopy than perhaps any other contemporary surgeon. Truly he is a giant among men.

Donald D. Johnson, MD

Don Johnson hails from Canada and is proud of his Canadian heritage. He received his M.D. degree from Queen's University and received his orthopaedic training at University of Ottawa. He rapidly became "Mr. Sports Medicine" in Ottawa but he has not allowed his renown to compromise his engaging and down to earth demeanor. Always with a smile, "Dandy Don" possesses great energy and enthusiasm. He is a tireless worker and has, at times, performed over one thousand ACL reconstructions in a single year! He has served as team physician/consultant for many famous collegiate and professional sports teams, and cared for athletes in both '76 Olympic Games.

Known as a masterful surgeon, "DJ." has been a fixture at AANA sponsored learning venues for several years. He has mentored numerous Fellows and residents as an academician. He currently serves as clinical Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Ottawa and is the Chief of the Sports Medicine University of Ottawa and Director Sports Medicine Clinic Carleton University. Dr. J is beloved by those he trains because of his personable, humble and giving spirit.

Don Johnson dutifully served AANA as president 2004 and his hallmark was enthusiasm, positivity and inclusion of younger members. Residents, Fellows and early practitioners have an affinity for DJ's warmth and giftedness for teaching. He has been a landmark for the Residents and Fellows' Conference in Florida, and is a champion for training of younger orthopaedists. Dr. Johnson has also been honored to serve as a board member of ISAKOS. 'DJ' has been rewarded with numerous honors, including the Sports Medicine Life Time Achievement Award from the Canadian Assoc. of Sports Medicine, and the Robichon award for Exemplary Service bestowed by the University of Ottawa.

'DJ' admits is quick to offer that a balanced life fuels his energy. He is devoted to his wife and soul mate of 44 years, Carole. His three sons, Christopher, Michael and Paul, share exceptional closeness to their father. A sports and fitness enthusiast, Don can be easily found at AANA conference mornings in the gymnasium at work on his treadmill. His athletic feats are staggering, including a successful climb on Mt. Everest, completion of the Hawaiian Ironman, an 'Alcatraz swim' and a 100 mile cross country ski meet.

An avid computer enthusiast, Don gives new meaning to the term 'computer geek' He has crafted an elegant Carleton Sports Medicine Clinic electronic newsletter and has produced several interactive CD ROMs for arthroscopy. His computer wizardry has helped 'bailout' many a less privileged speaker during many a 'computer meltdown' at meetings.

A prolific writer, Dr Johnson has written extensively on knee surgery, and has authored numerous chapters and papers. His most recent textbook, Practical Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy promises to be a classic for arthroscopists. He is also the author and editor of a monthly newsletter, *Practical Arthroscopy*, as well as serving as a reviewer for numerous journals.

Always impeccably dressed, Dr Johnson was even noted to don a 'black tie style' arm sling after rotator cuff surgery. Donald H. Johnson's colossal accomplishments, however, fall short of his amicable style and inherent goodness. He exudes positive energy and he engages new acquaintances with graciousness and kindness. The Don Johnson countenance is ever cheerful and transmits warmth and acceptance to all encountered. What an ambassador for AANA!

A firm believer in altruism, Dr. J. freely expresses that he is continually trying to 'give back' to the profession which he adores-and indeed he has! Dr. Johnson has devoted extraordinary energies to AANA. He has served AANA with distinction as Chairman of the Learning Center Committee and as Associate Editor for the Arthroscopy Journal. His wisdom, especially concerning complex knee reconstructions, is articulated beautifully by his artful and electronically endowed lecture style.

Master surgeon, exemplary teacher, articulate lecturer and dedicated family man - Don Johnson has become the role model of countless budding AANA members. A venerated educator, 'DJ' is a true Giant in the realm of sharing knowledge in order to help others. The 'contagion' of the 'Johnson Smile' has uplifted countless souls over the past three decades and shows no signs of slowing down.

