

Marjorie Winchester Hayes Wallace, M.D.

1916-2011



Marjorie Winchester Hayes Wallace, M.D. practiced psychiatry into her mid 80's and died at the age of 94 in San Rafael, California on January 22, 2011 of Alzheimer's disease.

Marjorie was born September 25, 1916, the second daughter of a geologist. As a young child, she traveled the world with her parents on geologic expeditions until she attended high school in Princeton, New Jersey while her father was a professor at Princeton University. She attended Vassar College and graduated with a degree in music. Her specialty was the cello. While at Vassar she played lacrosse but was asked to choose between lacrosse, with its potential for hand injuries, and cello. She chose the cello.

Between college and medical school Marjorie spent a year in Europe and was in Vienna when Hitler invaded. She was asked to register her race and listed it as Eskimo. The Nazis had limited experience with Eskimos and sent a "scientist" to measure her head for proper classification.

Marjorie attended Johns Hopkins Medical School. The medical school curriculum was compressed to prepare physicians for service in WWII. Johns Hopkins was one of the few medical schools at the time that would accept women. Marjorie says she never noticed any harassment or hostility from the male medical students or faculty, although during the first day of anatomy class, the male students did play catch and keep away with a set of male genitalia. Marjorie thought all this good fun. To earn money during medical school she was a paid subject in many scientific experiments. Her favorites were studies of essential amino acids. They were extremely popular as they provided food, usually good food, for a week or two to stabilize the subject's diet, and then a diet missing one amino acid. She said they were very interesting as you commonly would lose



many pounds a week during the experimental phase when missing an essential amino acid. "Gee, my acne cleared up, menses stopped, and I lost 20 pounds in a week. It was very interesting." She only knew of one medical student who had died in the studies. On the last day of medical school, Marjorie was in a study in which she took a multiple choice test. She had never seen one previously. They gave her a shot and then she took the test again. She thought she had done much, much better the second time. The next day she graduated and partied all night long. She said she felt great; she had never partied like that

before. The next morning she took the test yet again, and thought she had performed much better still. They then explained that she had been injected with amphetamines to evaluate their effects.

After medical school, Marjorie was an intern in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins on the Osler service. She lived in a tiny room in the rotunda of the Johns Hopkins cupola, giving new meaning to the the term 'internment'. Interns were unpaid and she sold blood to pay for toiletries. After internship she enlisted and received a commission in the U.S. Army. Her boyfriend at the time was a British medical student studying at Johns Hopkins to avoid the bombing of London. She enlisted to follow him to London. The Army however, had other plans, and she was sent to Fort Knox in Kentucky. She continued to play the cello and actually took the cello with her to the Kentucky Derby - we can only assume to play along.

During WWII the army sent her to Hollywood to make hygiene films as the medical consultant in Frank Capra's studio. She then performed a study on chemically-treated chemical warfare undergarments in women for the Army. The concept was that a carbon-treated undergarment would somehow protect soldiers from chemical weapons. Women must be different so they would test them in women as well. Marjorie wrote a very fine report entitled "Impregnated Women's Underwear". Marjorie was disappointed that no one in the Army seemed to notice.



Roger and Marjorie 11/28/92



Hospital. After the war, she was discharged as a major and returned to her training in medicine.

After Hollywood, Marjorie was assigned to the Hopkins Medical Corp and stationed in Leyte, Philippines as one of only two female physicians in the entire Pacific Theater. She enjoyed the tropics very much. The British military gave her a baby blue jeep. She was allowed to fly the transport plane when she was transferred to Manila. Part of the planned invasion force of Japan, she worked to prepare for the expected 2,000,000 casualties, if such an invasion took place. Ultimately she was stationed in Tokyo at Saint Luke's Hospital, known by the locals as San Ruku

Marjorie completed a psychiatry residency in Boston at a Harvard affiliate. On her first day of residency the chairman of the department of psychiatry took great care to explain to Marjorie his opinion that all schizophrenia was caused by masturbation. She received further training at the Peter Brent Brigham and in Chicago to become a board certified child psychiatrist. She also trained as a psychoanalyst. Marjorie finally settled in San Francisco where she taught at Langley Porter. She had a private practice at Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco and then in Orinda, CA. She served as the first president of the Northern California Child Psychiatry Society.

In 1971 Marjorie married Roger Wayne Wallace, Ph.D. a physicist and nuclear engineer at UCB. She remained married to Roger until her death. Marjorie and Roger helped her nephew Daryl Browne attend graduate school at UC Berkeley and medical school at Yale. Daryl Browne, M.D. continued her interest in child psychiatry by becoming a child psychiatrist in San Francisco. Marjorie is survived by her husband, Roger, Roger's daughter Betsy Karen Wallace Jones, Roger's two sons, Douglas Charles Wallace, M.D., a cardiac surgeon, and Arthur William Wallace, M.D., Ph.D. a cardiac anesthesiologist, her nephew, Daryl Browne of San Francisco and niece Patricia Browne of Canada.



From left: Roger Wayne Wallace, Ph.D. and Marjorie Winchester Hayes Wallace, M.D. (second from left) November 28, 1992. Arthur William Wallace, M.D. Ph.D., Alfia Amanda Vecchio Wallace, Alfred Edmund Vecchio, Ph.D., Carola Boxer Vecchio.



Marjorie, the Wallaces and the Joneses, December 1993 - From left: Art Wallace, Alfred Wallace, Alfia Wallace, Elizabeth "Betsy" Wallace Jones, Michael Jones Jr., Roger Wallace, Marjorie Wallace, Elizabeth Jones, Michael Jones Sr. D.V.M.



Marjorie, reading.