

HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT

2014/2015
Journal

Clare A. Hochreiter, M.D.

Class of 1968

Clare's class was the first class to graduate from the "new" Copiague High School, now re-named the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School, in honor of its first principal. Clare has many fond memories from her Copiague school years. In elementary school, she loved art class and helped with painting the scenery for the 6th grade productions of *Mikado* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. She also remembers the excitement of the 6th grade trip to Washington, D. C. In junior high school Clare became interested in science and participated in several science fairs. In high school Clare had great fun being involved in the Girls' Sports Night. Even though she had no athletic prowess, her program cover design won a point for her team. Clare's interest in science grew during high school, encouraged by Mrs. D'Alessandro, Mr. Brock, Mr. Amari and Mr. Mahoney. The course of her future education and career choice were altered when she was awarded a high school science prize which included a free application to the University of Rochester and won a Regents Scholarship which paid for her tuition to attend there.

Clare graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a BA in chemistry and then attended Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where she graduated in 1976 as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha. She remained there for her internship and residency before returning to New York City for training in adult cardiology at Cornell University Medical Center. Since 1983, Clare has been a cardiologist at New York Hospital – Cornell University Medical Center and has been involved in patient care, cardiac imaging, medical research and teaching. Her research has centered on valvular heart disease. She has published and presented her work in medical journals and at national cardiology conferences and enjoys teaching medical students and residents the pathophysiology of valvular heart disease and research methodology in cardiac imaging. Clare's most rewarding work has been caring for patients and families with serious heart disease.

During Clare's internship, she met her husband, Dr. Andrew Van Tosh and have two children, Rachel and Michael. Clare's mother still resides in Copiague. The support and encouragement of her family have been instrumental in her happiness and career achievements.

"Continue your education; it will expand your horizons and your opportunities."