

John Robinson Marshall

1929–2005

With great sadness, The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners notes the passing of John Robinson Marshall, AM, better known as 'Jack' – friend, colleague, doctor, and mentor to many.

Jack was a remarkable man who was recognised nationally and internationally for his contribution to medical education and assessment by those who were involved in these areas. However, his quiet, retiring and modest nature precluded many from being aware of his extraordinary achievements.

Jack graduated in medicine in 1955 at Queens University, Belfast, with honours in anatomy, a medal in bacteriology, and a scholarship in obstetrics and gynaecology. He came to Adelaide in 1958 and was immediately appointed as a clinical assistant in the Department of Cardiology at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. His association with the Royal Adelaide Hospital spanned nearly 50 years – he was working there as a Senior Visiting Specialist until a few weeks before his death.

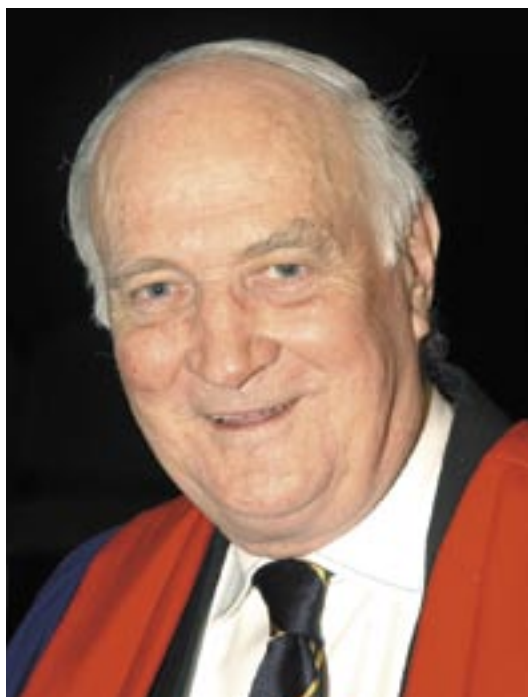
Jack was a prolific author, talented scholar, and passionate about education and training. But it was at the national level that Jack made his greatest contribution to the RACGP and to medical education and assessment both nationally and internationally. In 1973, the RACGP's Family Medicine Program was established. Jack, along with Wes Fabb and Michael Heffernan established and developed the educational and assessment reputation of the program.

In 1977, Jack became the Director of the college's new educational and assessment publication – **check** (Continuous Home Evaluation of Clinical Knowledge). He remained as Director until his retirement in 2004 after nearly 30 years in the role.

For 20 years, from 1973, Jack was also on the editorial board of the college's journal, *Australian Family Physician*.

Jack also served in many roles on the South Australia Faculty Board from 1965–1995.

From its inception, Jack was involved with the World Organisation of Family Doctors (WONCA) where he contributed an enormous amount to the areas of education and assessment. In 1979 he was appointed as Chairman of the newly formed Education Committee of WONCA.



Jack's expertise in medical education spread beyond the RACGP and beyond the bounds of Australia. The list of accomplishments runs to pages of appointments and publications too many to list. Suffice to say that under the aegis of the Family Medicine Program he produced 20 publications of great educational value. He has also personally 26 published papers, 33 invited papers, and has numerous video and computer productions to his credit.

Jack was awarded Membership of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day's Honours in 2002, and Life Fellowship of the RACGP in 2004.

Alongside his work as a general practitioner and medical educator, Jack managed to find time to be father to five adored children and 11 grandchildren. He had a range of broad and eclectic interests, perhaps the most enduring of which was his love of painting and collecting.

General practice owes much to the vision, patience, and dedication of Jack Marshall. The RACGP's condolences, thoughts and best wishes are with Jack's family.