

ROY DON WILSON

Roy Don Wilson or "R.D." as many of his colleagues knew him, graduated from Texas A & M University in 1964. Upon graduation he accepted a high school job as Head Athletic Trainer at Ector High School in Odessa, Texas (1964-66). Since then R.D. served at many levels in different capacities: Assistant Athletic Trainer at Florida State University (1966-68); Head Athletic Trainer at The Citadel (1968-70); Head Athletic Trainer at the University of Kentucky (1970-78); Head Athletic Trainer at the University of Southwestern Louisiana (1978-82); Director of the Sport Medicine Clinic of Lexington, Kentucky (1982-83); Head Athletic Trainer of the Houston Gamblers of the United States Football League (1984-85); Director of the Houston Clinic for Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (1985-88) and Director and partner of the Sports Rehab Clinic of Houston (1988-92).

R.D. was an active participant in the profession at all levels. He served as the SEATA Annual Meeting Program Co-Chair in 1975-1976 and as Chair from 1979-1981. He also represented Kentucky on the SEATA Executive Committee in 1975 and later as Louisiana's representative in 1979. He was elected as the Vice-Director of SEATA in 1977 and served in that capacity until 1979 when the position was changed to President which he continued in until 1982. In 1982 he became District IX Director and represented SEATA on the NATA Board of Directors until 1984. He was elected Secretary and Chairman of the Joint Commission of Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. Furthermore, R.D. served as Chairman of the Legislative Committee for both the Kentucky and Louisiana Athletic Trainer Association. R.D. also served as a NATA Certification examiner and a State of Texas Licensure examiner as well as the first Vice-President for the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association (SWATA) before serving as President from 1988 to 1989. He was appointed as the first chairman of the NATA Clinical Athletic Trainers Committee in 1987. He served as Interim President of the Greater Houston Athletic Trainers' Society in 1988 during its initial year.

Roy Don was inducted into the SWATA Hall of Fame in 1996. SWATA further honored him with the establishment of the Roy Don Wilson Memorial Scholarship. He was inducted into the Louisiana Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame in 1999 and into the Kentucky Athletic Trainers' Society Hall of Fame in 2006.

Roy Don was a real contributor whose life was taken in 1992 at age 50 after a long battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma and resultant heart disease. He was survived by his former wife, Pat, their son, Blaine, and their daughter, Christi.