



Gary D. Reinholtz MA, ATC

EDUCATION: Mankato State University (BS), 1972; Mankato State University (MA), 1976

CAREER: U.S. Air Force, 1966-70, and served in Vietnam, 1968-69; athletic trainer/researcher, University of Washington, 1972-75; head athletic trainer, Highline High School, Seattle, 1973-75; graduate assistant athletic trainer, Mankato State University, 1975-76; program director, Gustavus Adolphus College, 1976-2005; head athletic trainer, Gustavus Adolphus College, 1976-2005

VOLUNTEER SERVICE: Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association chair and treasurer, 1979-81; Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association president, 1983-85; Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association newsletter editor, 1980-84; Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association vice-president, 1984-86; Great Lakes Athletic Trainers Association Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia program chair, 1987 and 1997; NATA Honors & Awards Task Force, 1990-92; Minnesota

Athletic Trainers' Association Legislative Committee chair, 1990-97; Minnesota Executive Council state representative, 1992-94; NATA Honors and Awards Committee, 1993-98; Minnesota State Board of Medical Practice Athletic Trainers Advisory Council chair, 1993-2000

Why did you pursue athletic training as your career?

After being discharged from the U.S. Air Force in 1970, and serving in Vietnam, I returned to college to pursue my higher education. I was undecided about a career path until I took an introductory athletic training course at Mankato State University from Gordy Graham. It was the perfect combination where I could be involved in athletics and with health care.

What inspires you to volunteer and what do you get out of it?

Gordy Graham, my mentor in athletic training, suggested early in my career to get involved in the profession. This led me to volunteer to be the newsletter editor of District Four in 1980. This encouraged me to get involved at the state, district and national levels for more than 20 years. I received so much from these experiences, and met many outstanding athletic trainers along the way.

What is your most memorable moment?

I worked for many years as chair of the Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association Legislative Committee, which resulted the signing into law the Minnesota Athletic Trainers Act in 1993.

Who are your biggest mentors and what impact have they had on you?

Gordy Graham was the reason why I went into the profession. His influence and example as a total professional led me into a rewarding career in sports medi-

Hall of Famers Gordy Graham and Sayers "Bud" Miller.

What advice would you give to young athletic trainers just starting out in the profession?

Be the best you can at everything you do!

Be the best you can at everything you do! Treat every athlete/patient the same and consider their best interests always.

cine. Dr. Al Markman, orthopedist and team physician, was instrumental in motivating me to be the best athletic trainer I could be.

What is the most valuable advice you have received during your career?

Get involved in the profession! This advice and example by doing came from NATA

Treat every athlete/patient the same and consider their best interests always.

What is your hope for the future of the athletic training profession?

The willingness to change is the key to any profession, and NATA has always done this over the years. This is how a profession grows and remains strong.