Here comes Dr. Jordan

Start-up of the Abilene Animal Hospital

Originally, the Abilene Animal Hospital was located in the heart of downtown Abilene. Dr. Frank W. Jordan had bought the practice from a retiring veterinarian, but quickly realized

Mrs. Gwen and Dr. Frank W. Jordan

that the downtown location had its disadvantages.

"Frank decided it wasn't a good place, especially with large animals coming in," Gwen Jordan said. She graduated from K-State in 1940 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. "There was no place to put large animals in that office."

Dr. Jordan moved the practice to its current location, which was near the edge of town.

"The practice grew pretty well," Gwen said. "We had a lot of clients with dairies, and a lot of rural work to go out to on calls."

This was a good fit for Dr. Jordan. He had grown up on a farm in Beloit, Kan., and was comfortable working with farm animals.

"I remember one night, he went down into a creek to get a cow out of the creek before he could treat it." Gwen said. "Frank understood these situations because he knew what farmers deal with."

Dr. Jordan served the profession in many ways including as an American Veterinary Medical Association Delegate for several terms, advisory board member of the KSU Foundation for Veterinary Medicine, department head of veterinary science at Mississippi State College, Major in the Army from 1940-45 in charge of the meat inspection unit.

He was named Kansas Veterinarian of the Year in 1959; president, vice president, district trustee, and alternate delegate to the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association; E.R. Frank Award at the K-State CVM; member, Kansas Board Veterinary Examiners, in 1964; and Abilene Outstanding Citizen of the Year, in 1985. He passed away in January 2007.

In 1983, Dr. Jordan established an endowment to create the Frank W. Jordan Veterinary Medicine Seminar. Dr. Jordan's gift is used to finance the speaker's expenses for this seminar.