

tribute

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# House & Hearing

His humanitarian vision and dedication to hearing health touched the lives of thousands and left an indelible print on hearing research and medicine

**P**hysician. Researcher. Teacher. Visionary. Howard Payne House, M.D., was all of these things and more. Founder of the House Ear Institute (HEI) and a pioneering ear specialist who practiced otology at the House Ear Clinic, he treated Hollywood's brightest stars including Howard Hughes, Bob and Dolores Hope, Nanette Fabray, Phyllis Diller, Florence Henderson and former President Ronald Reagan.

"Dr. Howard House is an outstanding example of what has made America great," reads a tribute written by President Ronald Reagan. "Our country is so full of wonderful men and women who, like him, through diligent effort and creative drive, have made a tremendous difference in our world and brought to pass amazing scientific discoveries that have helped countless people everywhere."

Though Dr. House often joked about his poor scholarship as a medical student, he was a distinguished graduate of University of Southern California Medical School, and later, a member of its faculty and Head of the Department of Otolaryngology. Dr. House perfected the wire loop technique to replace the stapes bone of the middle ear and developed procedures to reconstruct middle ear parts. He helped establish the hearing conservation standards for occupational safety that are still in use today.

Dr. House received numerous honorary degrees and lifetime achievement awards during the 64 years of his medical career. He served as president of several professional associations including the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. Under his leadership, HEI became internationally recognized as the leading organization dedicated to advancing hearing science through research and education to improve quality of life. ❖