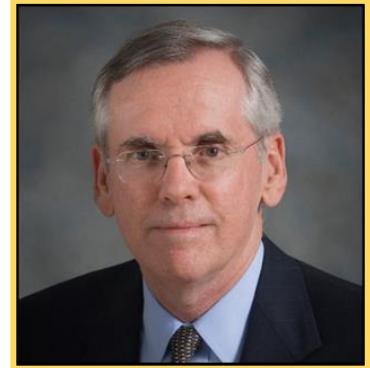


## Steve Stuyck, MPH, tells a story about an Early Leader

Mr. Stuyck came to MD Anderson in 1975 to serve as Director of Public Information and Education. When he retired in 2013, he was VP for Public Affairs. He worked closely with MD Anderson's second President, Charles Aubrey LeMaistre, MD. In an interview conducted in 2013, Mr. Stuyck recalls Dr. LeMaistre's gift for dealing with people.



### *Charles LeMaistre's Gift for Connection*

I reported directly to him for fifteen years....I learned so much from him about how you treat other people....He was so encouraging that it was like, my God, this guy is really counting on me. I can't let him down.

We had the governor come here one time to make an official visit. His press secretary told me to interrupt him at a certain time to take questions from the media that were assembled, and new governor said, "Hell, no! I'm not going to answer any God damned questions! Get out of my way, you fool." Right in front of all these people. That night Dr. LeMaistre called me at home. He said, "You know, Steve, it's my job to get along with the governor. It's your job to get along with the media, and don't you worry about this at all." And that was the kind of thing he did a lot for the people who worked for him.

I was at a luncheon and he was sitting up at the head table at the podium getting ready to give a talk. He got up from the podium and walked around the room to where I was seated at the back and bent down and asked me some question. The guy sitting next to me said, "You know, my boss would never do that with me. He would never get up and leave the podium to come talk to some lowly staff person." But I have many memories like that. I was just blessed to have that kind of relationship. It was really pretty amazing.



Charles Aubrey LeMaistre, MD  
Second President, 1978 – 1996

\*\*\*\*\*

## **About This Content**

This interview clip was taken from an in-depth interview conducted for the Making Cancer History Voices Oral History Project. This ongoing project currently contains almost 500 interview hours with MD Anderson institution builders.

The transcript has been edited from the original.

The content is available for public use.

**Interview link:** <http://mdanderson.libguides.com/StuyckSC>

### **Citations: Please provide the following information**

Interview Subject's name, Leadership Collection; Historical Resources Center, Research Medical Library, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

**To request an audio file, photographs, or for information about the interview and photo collections, contact:**

Photos and archival material: Javier Garza, MSIS, [jjgarza@mdanderson.org](mailto:jjgarza@mdanderson.org)