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Lincoln High School Assignment in cooperation
with the Arkansas Country Doctors Museum.

The students were to write a paper on a doctor in first person, consider biological perspectives of the day, historical perspective and character traits identified in the selected Doctor. This paper is by Rebecca Wright.

Dr. Harold L. Boyer



May 22, 1916- January 18, 2002

Biographical Perspective

My name is Doctor Harold Boyer. I was born on May 22, 1916 in Hartman, Ar.

My interest in medicine began as a boy when I used to travel with my father, Dr. Herbert Boyer. He was a family physician that made house calls down in rural Arkansas and traveled by horse and buggy. I was raised in Hartman for a little while. We then moved to Fort Townson, Oklahoma where I graduated from high school.

After I graduated high school, I went to the University of Oklahoma for six years to get my medical degree. I held three internships before WWII. I completed my first internship at the New Rochelle Hospital in New York in 1942. Then, I served in World War II as a Naval medical officer until my enlistment ended in 1946. I opened a dermatology practice in Oklahoma until I was activated to serve as a physician in the Korean War.

After the war, I married Jane Bohle in St. Louis in October of 1946. After ending my second stint with the Navy in 1952, I moved to Las Vegas. I opened up my first clinic, then co-founded the Las Vegas Skin and Cancer Clinics with Dr. Lucius Blanchard. At this time there were only 50 doctors in the Clark County Medical Society. I was a member and president of the Las Vegas Rotary Club as well as the Las Vegas chapter of the American Cancer Society. I served on local boards of the Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts of America. I was head of emergency at the Southern NV Memorial hospital. Up until the 1980's, I was a dermatologist at Nells Air Force Base. I founded the Arkansas County Doctors Museum in 1994 to pay tribute to my dad along with two other doctors. I retired in 1999.

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On Friday, January 18, 2002, Dr. Harold L. Boyer died of stomach cancer at his home in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr. Boyer's goal in life was to help people. On his death bed he told his family: "Be kind to people. It's the easiest thing in the world to do." Dr. Harold Boyer was a kind, charitable person that tried to help people in anyway possible. Such as helping with the Boy Scout of America, the American Cancer Society, and Salvation Army chapter in his area. He also served in the Navy. He was cremated in Hartman, Arkansas on January 23, 2002.

Biological Perspective

There are many diseases caused by bacteria and viruses. Doctors need to know many different things to help patients with these diseases. There are several ways to find the cause of an illness. There are also many ways to treat it. (If not the disease itself, then the symptoms.) *IS,*

There are numerous amounts of test to figure out what kind of pathogen is causing a disease. Some of these tests include: MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), Blood pressure and vision screening, CBC (Complete Blood Count), and PPD, a test for tuberculosis exposure. These may also include: testing of the gram stains of bacteria; urine samples, and patient histories (genetics).

The effects of bacteria may just be a little sickness that can be cured and treated with medicines and antibiotics. A virus on the other hand, is incurable. The effects of a virus, such as AIDS, can be fatal. Viruses replicate and kill cells, and causes malfunction of cells.

The treatments of an illness can range from rest to hospitalization. Anti-biotics kill the bacteria in your system and makes you better. Since viruses are incurable, the only treatment for them is symptomatic treatment; such as cough, fever, headache, depression, etc. *→ these are the symptoms, what are the treatments?*

To prevent yourself from getting sick, some lifestyle changes may be needed. For example, your daily habits have a huge influence on your health; the way you eat, sleep, and exercise. Make sure you always wash your hands before eating. Sanitation also plays a big part in illnesses. To prevent diseases from spreading, isolation is used, along with vaccination.

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used stocks as collateral at banks which caused banks to have to close; stocks weren't worth anything since the stock market had fallen. People lost all their money. Thousands of people lost their jobs and were found in bread lines just to get something to eat. The Great Depression lasted for several years. Many people were homeless along with broke.

Dr. Harold L. Boyer lived through many interesting and up-lifting years along with some fairly rough years filled with hard times. Throughout his lifetime there were many social and economical changes that took place. Many new laws were passed, wars ^{occurred} took place, people changed their habits, and women started standing up for themselves. The years of 1916 through 2002 were very eventful.