

MEET BVHS BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Emil Ziegler

Dr. Emil Ziegler, a retired obstetrician/gynecologist, was born in Germany and came to the United States in 1956. His family moved to eastern Ohio just before Dr. Ziegler began seventh grade.

Although initially he did not speak any English, he was determined to learn and became quite familiar with the language about six weeks after he started school. This experience taught Dr. Ziegler a valuable lesson, “If you set goals for yourself and keep striving toward them, you can achieve anything.”

Dr. Ziegler remembered this lesson for the rest of his life, which can be evidenced in his successful career. After obtaining a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, in 1966 and completing a year of graduate studies in organic chemistry at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, Dr. Ziegler realized industrial chemistry was



not for him and decided to enter the medical field instead. He graduated medical school in 1971 from The Ohio State University and completed his gynecological residency at Riverside Methodist Hospital in 1975.

That same year, Dr. Ziegler reminded himself of the lesson he learned as a child and decided to fulfill his ambitions of opening his own practice.

Throughout the 1970s, friends organized themselves into a professional group of five interns, two orthopedists and three gynecologists

including Dr. Ziegler. The “Columbus 10” made the move to Findlay, Ohio to begin their own OB-GYN practice, eventually named Blanchard Valley Obstetrics and Gynecology. During his time as an OB-GYN, Dr. Ziegler delivered over 5,000 infants. “Participating in the joyful event of the birth of a baby is just amazing,” he said. “It was my favorite part of the practice.”

Dr. Ziegler retired in 2000 after 25 years of service. He enjoyed a few

years relaxing before he decided he wanted to give back to the community. In 2010, Dr. Ziegler was asked to join the Blanchard Valley Health Foundation board, which he saw as the perfect opportunity. He is currently a member of the grants committee and helps decide which grant applications to present to the executive board for consideration. Dr. Ziegler said his background in health care serves him well when making these decisions, but his favorite part about being on the board is “working with wonderful people to serve our community.”

Dr. Ziegler has one son from his first marriage, who is currently practicing general surgery in North Carolina. After his first wife unfortunately passed away from a battle with colon cancer in 1994, he remarried the following year. He and his wife have an apartment on his cousin’s farm in Germany and visit at least once a year. Dr. Ziegler also enjoys woodcarving and downhill skiing in his free time. Nevertheless, Dr. Ziegler truly values being a member of the BVHF board and looks forward to continuing to serve for years to come.