

Joan Gregory

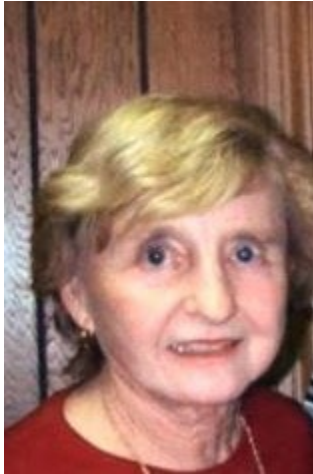
Interview

AANP Oral History Project

FAANP Original Fellows

An Interview with Joan Gregory, PhD, ANP-C

Interviewer: Kim Curry



When I called Dr. Gregory for her interview, memories of her came flooding back. Dr. Gregory was on my dissertation committee and was well known by all nursing students as a kind but no-nonsense teacher and a great role model. Originally from Georgia, she has long resided in the Tampa Bay, Florida area where she taught for many years at the University of South Florida.

I well remember one diagnostics class in which she was trying to bring home the point of not skipping past obvious things in our physical exams. After a short lecture, the students were told to pick a partner and conduct an ocular exam. Students, of course, were intensely struggling to find any type of pathology to report. After the focused physical exams were over, we turned back to our teacher for the test. The first question was “what color were the patient’s eyes”? Many students were unable to recall. Her point was made.

As a nurse practitioner, Gregory worked and mentored students in a variety of primary care settings around the area. She had a special interest in American Indian health and much of her scholarship was focused on this area. Dr. Gregory is completely retired but stays very busy with family activities. Her interview reflected that. She wanted to keep it brief so that she could move on to other things that she had planned. She reported that she still pays her retirement dues as an AANP member, and reads her journals to stay in touch.

Q & A

In 2000 you were selected as a charter fellow. What has changed since then?

The changes have been very gradual. There is no one specific thing that I would cite.

What do you see are the pivotal moments in the past years?

I can’t cite one thing, but we are moving forward. It would be nice to move forward faster.

How have you been able to impact the nurse practitioner movement?

I was always very active in conferences and as a speaker. I had many students who have had successful careers as clinicians and faculty.

Is there anything you would change if you had it to do over again?

No, not really. I don't have any strong opinions about that.

How would you like to be remembered?

As someone who stayed connected and provided leadership to others. Someone who helped in leading meetings and who was a frequent speaker at NP events.

What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?

Keep in touch with your NP organization and stay involved.

Interviewed June 18, 2018