

*Thank  
You.*

*Dr. Henkes*



**TEXAS DELEGATION  
TO THE AMA**

Dr. Henkes:

On behalf of all of the members of the Texas Delegation to the American Medical Association, and the staff of the Texas Medical Association, we wish to express our most sincere gratitude and appreciation for your many years of service, dedication, and leadership to our delegation. The words we share here cannot fully articulate the message we hope to deliver to you today. Saying "Thank You" is not enough.

You have made such a significant difference through your 25 years of work on the delegation. When you joined the Texas Delegation as an Alternate Delegate in 2001, your skills as a leader became evident to all of us. After serving 10 years as an Alternate, you rose to the ranks of Delegate in 2011, and immediately became Vice Chair of the delegation. This was evidence of your ability to lead others and "walk the talk" of servant leadership.

In 2014, we were blessed with your continued leadership when you became Chair of the Delegation. Here we are another ten years later, and under your steady hand, Texas has been recognized as the strongest, most influential delegation in the AMA House.

Your gentle and focused style of leadership has inspired many of your peers to see the delegation as a true "family of medicine." This closeness has allowed the delegation to work as a united team and thus accomplish more than many dreamed possible. We have been proud to call you our leader, our chair, and more importantly, our friend. We hope that you will know you are always welcome here and we wish you the very best in the coming years.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Darrouzet  
Executive Vice President/CEO  
Texas Medical Association





## WORDS TO DESCRIBE HIS TENURE:

- COALITION BUILDER
- PRINCIPLED TEXAS PHYSICIAN
- INVALUABLE MENTOR
- TREASURED LEADERSHIP
- TRAIL BLAZER
- HUMBLE
- EMBODIMENT OF STEWARDSHIP
- FOSTER OF FAMILY VALUES
- GUARDIAN OF TEXAS PATIENTS



**David Henkes, MD was elected in 2001, became a delegate in 2011, Chair in January of 2014, and will complete his term at TexMed 2025.**

### **Things that the AMA fought:**

- 2005:** AMA leads effort with 129 other health care and patient groups, which results in the passage and signing of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act.
- 2013:** The AMA officially recognized obesity as a disease in 2013 in an attempt to change how the medical community approaches the issue
- 2022:** Help create the Key Issues Coalition to spearhead medicines most important issues

# When I think of David...

I immediately  
think of the  
Texas Medical Association  
Honorable and  
complete dedication

Scott Ferguson

I THINK OF NOT ONLY A STRONG &  
DEDICATED LEADER AND ADVOCATE  
FOR THE PHYSICIANS & PATIENTS, BUT  
ALSO A DEAR FRIEND AND MENTOR.  
I JOINED THE DELEGATION ONLY A FEW  
YEARS AGO, BUT DR. HENKES MADE MYSELF  
AND OTHERS FEEL LIKE FAMILY. WE WILL  
DEARLY MISS HIS GUIDANCE BUT KNOW  
THAT HE HELPED MAKE OUR DELEGATION  
"THE BEST DAMN DELEGATION IN THE AMA!"

- MATT MCGLENNON

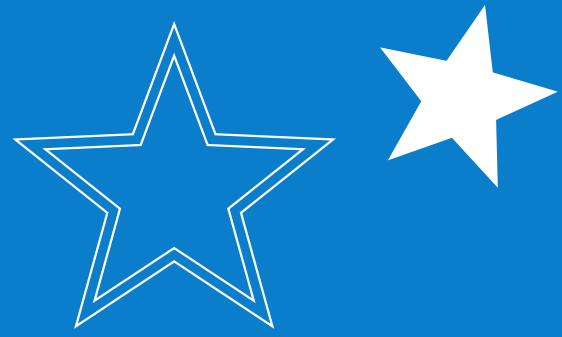
Always positive &  
encouraging! Had a  
great sense of  
humor far 6:00am!  
Appreciate your welcoming  
me as staff and  
leading the Docs!

- Clayton Stewart

I think of Texas,  
proper boots, chili  
and his suite.  
He is always  
welcoming, support  
and thoughtful.

Dave Walsh





“David is a  
mentor for all.”



## When I think of David...

its 6<sup>am</sup> - again - really!  
I need another cup of coffee first

Thanks for mentoring me &  
encouraging my enthusiasm  
for AMA policy - & for great  
notes in the suite debating issues  
or talking family.  
Bill Gilmer

I think of Leadership.  
Being a newer member of  
the delegation, there is  
a learning curve. David  
has always been available  
to help and mentor on  
the process. This strengthens  
our delegation and  
speaks volumes to his  
commitment to leadership  
- Eddie Patten D

David is a mentor for all.  
I personally owe my success in  
leadership to him. He has personally  
spent considerable time to help me  
in refining my leadership skills.

David is very kind and  
compassionate and is always thinking  
about how to make practice of  
medicine better for all physicians  
and patients. Thank you for your  
selfless dedication to BCMS, TMA & AMA.  
Best Regards,  
Jay Shah

Building on many strengths  
in TMA (TERRAC etc), David  
lead TMA HoD delegation of  
strong personalities + is  
strongly respected by most  
State + Regional AMA  
Delegations - Has created  
great respect + Coalitions

R. Mathur

We will miss you!

## When I think of David...



... I think of a  
"stand-up" guy who is  
as good as his word.

All the best,

Jerome C. Cohen, MD  
PRESIDENT, WSENY  
PAST CHAIR, AMA Council CCB

I think of how supportive  
Dr. Henkes has been of  
medical student and resident/fellow participation in the TX  
Delegation and in the PMA  
and PMA at large. I so  
appreciate your willingness  
to include us in the room and  
recognize us as the future of TX  
medicine, even when we might  
respectfully disagree. Thank  
you for valuing our voices!

We will miss you!  
RJR Rajadhar Reddy  
Baylor MD '25

I think of a strong leader,  
a proud Texan and father,  
a loving husband, a dedicated  
physician leader, an  
accomplished pathologist,  
and a wonderful friend.  
Thank you for your years  
of service to the Texas  
Delegation to the AMA.

Love always,  
Sue Bailey

I recall his welcoming  
demeanor when I first  
joined the TMA Delegation  
early to the AMA.

He is a true servant  
leader and role model.

Mark Casanova, MD  
Mark Casanova



# When I think of David...

I think of the 6:00 AM "Good mornings", the 4 fire second review of the minutes, yet the constant organized, well directed meetings. You are a well respected leader by us and everyone else. Thank you!

Steven Hays

Dr. Henkes,  
 THANK YOU for your leadership and support in regards to learning from the delegation when I was a med student, resident, fellow, and now as a young physician. I think you are fair and when we talk to you, you listen. Your leadership and humor will be missed. Don't go?!! I've learned a lot from you, so Thank You.  
 J. P. Throckmorton

I think of his openness, his consideration of all opinions, and his willingness to welcome all physicians from Texas into the delegation proceedings. He appreciate his hard work for all of the physicians of Texas, his ability to work with others in the HOD for the benefit of all physicians. We will miss you!  
 Appreciate your support  
 J. P. Throckmorton

I think of outstanding Texas leadership at the AMA! I met Dr. Henkes when I served on the TX delegation as a medical student. I loved my two years as an MSS sectional delegate and I always felt very welcomed and listened to by the TX team, especially Dr. Henkes. I wish you lots of joy with your retirement from the AMA delegation and I hope you cherish all the memories and friendships that live on from your time advocating for patients and the profession.  
 With sincere gratitude,  
 David Savage, MD, PhD  
 Honolulu, currently San Diego, CA



"You have inspired so many to do meaningful work for the people of Texas and the U.S."



## When I think of David...

I think of "a leader of leaders"  
 David is not only one of the  
 more strategic individuals I have  
 ever enjoyed working with ~~on~~ <sup>on</sup> ~~his~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~side~~ <sup>side</sup>  
 but he has a unique way of galvanizing  
 others to effectively rally around important  
 causes. David's leadership personality,  
 vision + dedication has made  
 the AMA HFD a better place for  
 everyone.  
 Thank you David!!  
 Scott Shapiro

...I think of a leader among leaders.  
 You have inspired so many to do  
 meaningful work for the people  
 of Texas and the US. We first met  
 when I was in residency in San  
 Antonio, working with you in <sup>20+ years ago</sup>  
 interpreting pathologic samples.  
 I knew then you were a giant,  
 and have only had that opinion  
 cemented since then. Thank you  
 for everything over these many years!

David, you have over  
 all these years  
 excelled as a good leader  
 to a level of the stars.  
 Even tho, there were several  
 before you, you  
 Represent the Texas Deleget  
 Thank you

Thank you for being such  
 a great leader and mentor  
 to Brad and I. We  
 could have never made  
 it without your guidance  
 you are a treasure to  
 TMA and to the professio  
 of medicine. You will be  
 greatly missed by all of us  
 Many blessings to you and  
 Danielle.  
 Connie

## When I think of David...



I think of a kind personable physician. I have really appreciated his leadership & his willingness to welcome medical students w/ open arms. He has really modeled what it means to be a physician leader & allow all opinions to be heard.

—Kristy Thurn

I remember the chair of Texas who did my first "unofficial interview" as I began my run for vice speaker. His questions were not difficult, but he made me really think about how important the role is. 5 years later I know him as a friend and the important leader in our house that he has always been. Thank you for your service to medicine. We will miss you!

I so appreciate your mentoring over the past 11 years, since I joined the delegation. I appreciate you including me in leadership opportunities in our Texas delegation. Truly, you have elevated the status of our delegation at the AMA. I'm honored to call you and Danielle friends. Alice and I hope to continue that friendship in the years to come. Continued success to Nichole and Daniel. Thank you for your years of service at the TMA and AMA.

Greg Fuller  
We will miss you!

I am truly grateful that you were one of the first physicians that introduced me to the world of organized medicine. Not only have you been such a pleasure to work with, seeing you lead the delegation has been a treat in itself. Thank you so much for making my time as staff so enjoyable and easy. The state of Texas and its patients may not know the hard work you've done but we all see it and appreciate it.  
Brad Burnett

## When I think of David...



First, I think of what a privilege it is to call you my friend. I count our friendship and time together as incredibly precious & special.

Then I think of what a tremendous leader you are. You had a major part of stabilizing our delegation and helped restore the respect for our delegation by other states & caucuses.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you -  
Gary Floyd

I think of one of the most caring physicians I have ever known. A man who cares deeply about his family, who cares about the physicians of Texas and how we are represented at the TMA level and the AMA level.

Honorable, personable, & caring!  
Thank you,  
Debbie Fuller

Smart, humble, fun,  
Devoted to the medical profession  
and TEXAS.

Family first, compassionate  
collegial and focused  
on doing the Right-thing  
for the Right Reasons.

Welcoming to me as  
a has-been,  
Excelsior, your friend,

Juni Kohnackova

David, you have put so much of your time & effort into being our chair and we love you for it! You are the best! We will miss you so much! Thanks for all you have done for medicine & doctors & our patients!! Love you  
DIANA FITE

When I think of David...



"The best Chair with the most infectious laugh. Thank you for your leadership and service!"



THE  
Best Silly  
GAMES FOR  
MEMORABLE  
DINERS  
Low Carol

I think of the first Texan to welcome me to the delegation and the best Chair with the most infectious laugh. Thank you for your leadership and service!

- Victoria Garden

I think of a man who has sacrificed for us all, who has plundered his time, his energy, and his ideas to move things forward for Texas and for us all. Thank you so much!  
Chyl Hood

he was the first person to welcome me to the delegation. Incredibly kind, good man. We are better for his service.

- Daniel Hulgorn



## When I think of David...

Thank you for leading  
the Texas delegation  
for so many years.  
Greatly appreciate your  
commitment to improving  
healthcare for all Texans  
and individuals across the  
USA.

Anand Singh, MD  
at TCU

I remember our Hill  
visits in DC in 2023, and  
how great it was representing  
Texas physicians. From  
Austin to Hawaii, it has  
been a pleasure working  
with you the last three  
years. Your humor and  
personality will definitely  
be missed.

All the best, Sean

Integrity

Focused on what is best for Texas

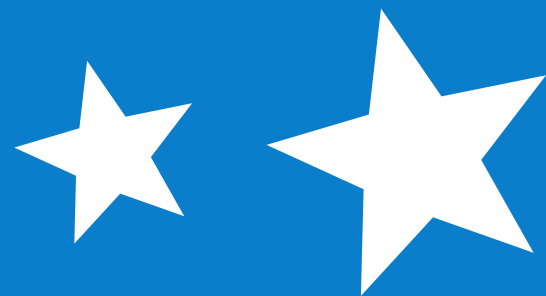
Welcoming

Constant

C. Jumper

I think of a true  
leader, professional,  
compassionate & friend.  
Thank you for your  
mentorship  
you will be missed  
Call anytime my friend

Ray



“David truly cares about his team; about doing the right thing; [and] about being a credible and balanced voice for us as physicians.”



## When I think of David...

I think of a natural  
LEADER!

Thanks for bringing our  
States together to focus  
on key issues.

You make a difference

Liz Owens

Pennsylvania

I have had the opportunity  
to be on the Delegation  
with 5 leaders over  
the years & you are top  
tier. You have given  
your all supporting us  
without promoting self.  
You encourage us instead  
of deflating us. For all  
your efforts, Thank You.  
You will be missed.  
- Robert <sup>Bob</sup> ~~C~~ <sup>Emrick</sup>

I think of the legendary Texan  
hospitality distilled into one person.

I will always remember how  
David extended his friendship to me  
so readily after I was elected as  
Chair of the NY Delegation.

I will, of course, miss David when he  
steps down, but his presence will  
still be felt.

Sincerely,

Greg Pinto

I think funny, trivia  
loving, passionate about  
organized medicine, and loyal.  
David truly cares about his  
team, about doing the right  
thing, about being a credible  
and balanced voice for us as  
physicians. I will miss his  
mentorship, sense of membership and  
friendship and his "let's get this  
done" attitude. He is truly a  
legacy - a legend and a Texan.

We will miss you!

Sheila Rege  
MD State



## When I think of David...

A Great Friend

A Great Man with  
a Great Career

I will miss  
you greatly

God I


I think of a good friend with much wisdom, exceptional energy, and great ideas. A true team player who always advocates for physicians and patients. Above all, a superb family man with great humor and a love of life.

We will miss you!  
Al Ray MD




### WHEN I THINK OF DAVID,

DAVID YOU ARE A PHYSICIAN IN THE TRUEST SENSE.  
YOU CARE PASSIONATELY ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR GREAT PROFESSION.  
YOU PUT OTHERS ABOVE YOURSELF.  
YOUR WORD IS YOUR BOND.  
YOU DON'T ALWAYS SPEAK IN A LOUD VOICE BUT YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL.  
FRIENDSHIP MEANS A LOT TO YOU AND I AM PROUD TO SAY YOU ARE MY FRIEND.  
YOU WILL BE MISSED BY ALL OF US IN THE FLORIDA DELEGATION.  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND I HOPE OUR PATHS CROSS AGAIN IN THE FUTURE.  
SINCERELY, DOUG

## When I think of David...



"Thank you, David, from the bottom of my heart. Please enjoy your retirement and let your family know how much we have appreciated their generosity in allowing you to advocate with us on behalf of physicians and patients."



Dear David,

Thank you for all your years of "rolling up your sleeves to get things done." We within the AMA and the house of medicine will lose a lot with your departure from the AMA. We know it's time for you and your family - but please know how grateful many of us are that you have invested so much time into making things better for all of us who take care of patients.

David, I will always remember spending time in your Texas suite one on one with you. My husband said that you were one of the few physicians in the AMA that he met that was a straight shooter and told things as they were. Over the years I have learned to rely on your instincts, appreciate what the AMA has done on our behalf (e.g. surprise billing) and seen how passionate you are about issues we can have an impact on.

Thank you David from the bottom of my heart. Please enjoy your retirement and let your family know how much we have appreciated their generosity in allowing you to advocate with us on behalf of physicians and patients. Sheila

## *When I think of David...*



“A True Friend is unafraid of an honest debate or disagreement...A True Friend takes both losses and wins in stride, neither sulking or gloating.”



### A True Friend

- A True Friend remains regardless of circumstances, regardless of the times, regardless of difficulty.
- A True Friend takes calls even when relaxing in the mountains, driving home, relaxing on the beach or gardening in the community plot.
- A True Friend values confidentiality.
- A True Friend is willing to join silliness on TV...or ZOOM ... or even some Thursday nights.
- A True Friend is unafraid of an honest debate or disagreement.
- With a True Friend ...”yes” is “yes” and “no” is “no” and “maybe” is “maybe.”
- A True Friend says “read between the lines, you dummy” with a twinkling eye and an unforgettable, killer smile.
- A True Friend does not mind a fair fight, may even come out swinging, but can share a sandwich a day or so later.....well....at least ... eventually.
- A True Friend takes both losses and wins in stride, neither sulking nor gloating.
- A True Friend can, in the same arena, both fight alongside, and against, even in the same hour or day, over separate issues; thus a True Friend can differentiate between honest disagreement or manipulation and comradeship. And comradeship always prevails.
- A True Friend knows the value of any Golden Gobler ... even if fading from sight and memory.

A True Friend is my

TRUE FRIEND

Dr David Henkes.

I Miss YOU ... already.

Steve Imbeau

6/24

