

Dr. Jan E. Leestma, MD, MM *W9MKR* - Our subject Michigan born in 1938, of Dutch ancestry. Actively licensed since age 16, enjoying ham radio and other interests. He attended Hope College in Holland, Michigan graduating with a B.A degree in Chemistry and Biology in 1960. Attended U of Michigan School of Medicine graduating in 1964.



He pursued a residency in Anatomic Pathology and Neuropathology at the Univ of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver 64-67 He completed his Neuropathology training at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the Bronx, NY in 1968. Served with the United States Air Force Medical Corps at Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in WASHDC. from 1968 until 1971. & honorably discharged with the rank of Major USAF MC.

Dr. Leestma is an author of more than 100 professional publications including his Forensic Neuropathology texts. Jan is still actively engaged in his forensic neuropathology consulting practice, in legal cases involving forensic issues for over 30 years. He has testified in a number of High profile cases. Most notably the so called “Nanny” case (Commonwealth v Louise Woodward) in Cambridge, Mass. He has had the privilege to work with many notable attorneys and forensic experts over the years.

After Dr. Leestma’s military career he joined the Faculty of Northwestern Univ. Medical School in 1971, remaining until 1985 then Associate Professor of Pathology and Neurology, Chief Neuropathology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Children’s Memorial Hospitals in Chicago. A guest researcher, obtained a degree at J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management gaining a Masters of Management Degree in 1986. Also serving as Assistant Medical Examiner at the Cook County Medical Examiner’s office and consultant to the Institute of Forensic Sciences in San Juan PR.

I refuse to stop advising you of this mans accomplishments! It is amazing, served as a Professor of Pathology and Neurology and an Associate Dean with the Division of the Biological Sciences and the Pritzker School of Medicine at the Univ. Of Chicago from 1985 to 1987 when he became the Neuropathologist and Accociate Medical Director of the Chicago Institute of Neurosurgery and Neuroresearch (CINN) at the Columbus Hospital in Chicago. Between 1987 and 1994 CINN became the largest neurosurgical practice in Illinois and the region with more than 25 neurosurgeons on its staff. CINN operated as a part of its stereotactic radiosurgery section, the third Gamma Knife in the Unites States and pioneered in the development of sophisticated dose-planning software. Dr. Leestma retired from hospital/institutional practice in 2004.

W9MKR makes his home in the Chicago area, married with two grown daughters and two grandchildren. He makes time for photography, drawing and water colors, metal working, skiing and world travel. This is one individual who could literally write a book on how to keep busy.