



Ruth Mershon

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A physician for 47 years, Ruth Mershon was a caring and well respected anesthesiologist. Born in 1924 in Pushmataha County, Okla., Dr.



Kelvin Zhang

Mershon earned her medical degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1949 and worked first in Hutchinson, Kan. before returning to Oklahoma City in 1975. She was raised in a family environment that valued education and the arts; her grandfather was a college professor and her mother was an avid reader and advocate for public libraries.

In planning her estate, Dr. Mershon directed that all remaining assets of her retirement accounts be used to establish an endowment at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Since her death in 2000, the Ruth Mershon Fund has supported the areas Dr. Mershon had most cared about such as the arts, animals and education.

For Kelvin Zhang, a 2006 graduate of Edmond North High School, Dr. Mershon's generosity meant he could focus on his studies while attending North Carolina State University.

"One burden many students face, especially out-of-state students, is the financial aspect of paying for college," he says. "Receiving the Ruth Mershon Scholarship definitely helped ease my stress in paying for college." Kelvin graduated from college in 2010 and is now employed as a manufacturing engineer.