

ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

Rolland Whitacre's Wandering Testament



Less than 6 yr after serving as president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) and 5 yr after co-inventing his namesake spinal needle, Dr. Rolland Whitacre (*above right*) suffered a fatal heart attack in 1956. He received the ASA's Distinguished Service Award later that year. More than half a century later, a New Testament (*above left*) bearing the inscription "Rolland John Whitacre" appeared in an online auction. Deemed outside the Wood Library-Museum's collecting parameters, the book was purchased with personal funds and mailed as a gift in 2008 from the WLM curator to Whitacre's family. When the wandering book returned to the WLM curator as a "lost shipment" in early 2010, he shipped it, finally successfully, by registered mail to Whitacre's daughter. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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