



In Memoriam

COL(Ret) Sherman Axinn, M.Ed., DDS, USA Dental Corps

August 2, 1935 – July 28, 2026

The Association of Army Dentistry notes with sadness the passing of **COL Sherman Axinn, M.Ed., DDS, USA (Ret.)**, a career Army Dental Corps officer, prosthodontist, educator, and longtime member of the Army dental community. Dr. Axinn passed away on July 8, 2026, at the age of 90 in Ocala, Florida.

COL Axinn enjoyed a distinguished career in the U.S. Army Dental Corps. He was selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel in 1973 and subsequently rose to the rank of colonel. By the mid-1970s, he was serving as **Chief of the Removable Prosthetic Division at the U.S. Army Dental Activity, Fort McPherson, Georgia.**

Later in his career, COL Axinn served at **Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Washington**, where he was **Chief of Removable Prosthodontics in the General Dentistry Resident Training Program.** In that capacity, he contributed not only to the care of soldiers and their families but also to the education and professional development of subsequent generations of Army dentists.

An accomplished prosthodontist and dental educator, Dr. Axinn was also an active contributor to the professional dental literature. His research and clinical articles appeared in leading publications, including the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* and the *Journal of the American Dental Association*. His published work addressed removable prosthodontics and other clinical subjects and reflected the important role Army dentists have long played in advancing the profession of dentistry.

Following his military career, Sherman and his wife, **Carolyn**, eventually made their home in **Ocala, Florida**, where they became active members of the Candler Hills community at On Top of the World. Community records show Sherman and Carolyn helping organize social activities for their neighbors, including the community's "Dinner for Six" program. Sherman remained involved in community life in retirement and was among residents recognized for participating in local blood drives.

Family was also an important part of his life. Sherman was the father of **Gerald "Jerry" Axinn**, who preceded him in death in 2023. Jerry's obituary also identifies his siblings **Alexander Axinn, Evelyn A. Meyers, Elliott Axinn, and Adam Axinn**, reflecting the extended Axinn family Sherman leaves behind.

COL Axinn's life spanned decades of change in Army dentistry. Through his service as an Army Dental Corps officer, specialist, teacher, published author, and mentor, he contributed to the proud professional tradition of the Corps and to the education of those who followed him.

The Association of Army Dentistry extends its condolences to **Carolyn and the Axinn family** and remembers COL Sherman Axinn with gratitude for his many years of service to Army Dentistry and the dental profession.