

# Attinger is 2007 Olmos Honoree

Dr Attinger, from Georgetown University Hospital, is the 2007 Edward James Olmos Award Honoree



## FAST FACTS: CHRISTOPHER ATTINGER, MD

- Director of the Wound Healing Center at Georgetown University Hospital
- Full professor in three departments at Georgetown
- Graduated from Yale Medical School
- Served in the US Army in Vietnam
- Was born in Lausanne, Switzerland
- Speaks several languages
- Has trekked to both the North and South Poles

The Diabetic Foot Conference (DFCon) '07 Co-chairmen George Andros, MD, and David G. Armstrong, DPM, PhD are pleased to announce that the Edward James Olmos Award for Advocacy in Amputation Prevention Honoree for 2007 is Christopher E. Attinger, MD. As director of the Wound Healing Center at Georgetown University Hospital, Dr. Attinger heads one of the world's most respected limb salvage teams. His work and teaching have saved the limbs, and often the lives, of countless Diabetic Foot and other patients, according to the DFCon Web site.

Dr. Armstrong said: "Dr. Attinger is the epitome of the modern medical renaissance man, as he currently is full professor in three departments at Georgetown — plastic surgery, orthopedic surgery and otolarngology. His personal and professional history is a litany of talent and courage, but also innovation and willingness to take the road less traveled. Those who know him say he is willing to draw from different disciplines to produce novel therapies. His integration of plastic, podiatric, vascular and orthopaedic surgery in his unit has been hailed as both novel and visionary."

Dr. Andros said that "Dr. Attinger has filled, or rather created, a new niche in diabetic foot salvage. He has addressed the diabetic wound in a fresh way so that modern wound care technology has taken a parallel position with more traditional therapies like offloading/debridement by podiatrists and revascularization by vascular surgeons. He has shined a light into a little understood corner of a complex problem. Where there is light, research and improved patient care will find a safe and efficacious home."

Dr. Attinger graduated summa cum laude and Phi

Beta Kappa from Washington and Lee in 1977, and cum laude from Yale Medical School in 1981. He did his internship and residency in General Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Then he completed the Homan Vascular Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in 1986. He continued to NYU where he did a 2-year Plastic Surgery Fellowship and the Beasley Hand Fellowship, before joining the Plastic Surgery Department at Georgetown University Hospital.

Before beginning his medical career, Dr. Attinger served in the US Army in Vietnam. In 1968 and 1969, he was an officer with the Fifth Infantry Division and the 101st Airborne. He was wounded in combat. Among other medals, he received the Purple Heart with OLC, the Bronze Star with OLC and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star.

A speaker at many international conferences, the winner of many medical awards and the author of a long list of professional papers, Dr. Attinger is a member of numerous societies including ASPS, AAPS, AOFAS, ACS, ASRM, ADA and WHS. Born in Lausanne, Switzerland, Dr. Attinger speaks several languages and is a world traveler, with a variety of personal and professional interests. He has trekked to both the North and South Poles, is an ardent Arctic aficionado, nature photographer, and also earned his certification as a ski instructor in Davos, Switzerland. He is married, and he and his wife have one daughter.

Previous honorees include: Karel Baker, MD, Heemstede, Netherlands, 2003; Andrew J. M. Boulton, MD, Manchester, UK, 2005; Gary W. Gibbons, MD, 2006, Boston. ■