

A Guide to the Julian Beckwith papers MS.96

Julian Ruffin Beckwith papers
1918-1985



Title Statement

A Guide to the Julian Beckwith papers MS.96

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Author: Amanda Greenwood

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Claude Moore Health Sciences Library
1300 Jefferson Park Avenue
P.O. Box 800722
Charlottesville, Virginia 22908-0722
mailto:hsl-historical@virginia.edu
URL: <https://www.hsl.virginia.edu/historical/>



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Notes

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Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-05-22 11:01:26 +0000.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS.96

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/7/resources/1853

Unit Date

1918-1985

Mixed Materials

1 (box)

Language

English

Extent

1 Linear Feet The box contains 18 folders of material.

Condition Description

The items are in fair condition.

Repository

Claude Moore Health Sciences Library

Administrative Information

Biographical / Historical

Julian Ruffin Beckwith, Jr.(1940-1982) was born December 28, 1910, in Petersburg, the son of Julian R. Beckwith, M.D., and Louise C. Beckwith. Educated in Petersburg public schools, he attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the University of Virginia School of Medicine, receiving his M.D. degree in 1936. After a rotating internship at the Cincinnati General Hospital, he returned to the University and spent several years in medical residency and fellowship before moving in 1940 to the C&O Hospital in Clifton Forge, where he soon became Chief of Medicine.

Except for a military leave of absence from 1943-46 (research service as captain in the Army Medical Corps), he spent 13 productive years at Clifton Forge, expanding the clinical facilities in internal medicine there, becoming the pre-eminent diagnostician and cardiologist in Western Virginia, and publishing a dozen excellent research papers without any institutional research support.

He returned to the University in 1953 as assistant professor of medicine in cardiology under the late J. Edwin Wood, Jr. By 1965 he had risen to the rank of professor and Head of the Cardiovascular Division, a position he held until 1977. In 1981 he retired as Emeritus Professor of Medicine but continued active practice as a consultant until his death in 1982.

Julian Beckwith's career epitomized excellence in clinical cardiology. In addition to the scholastic honors of membership in AOA, the Raven Society, Sigma Xi, and ODK, he was a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, a member of the American Heart Association, of the American Clinical and Climatological Association, of the Association of University Cardiologists, and president of the Virginia Heart Association for many years.

He was always an ardent supporter of the American College of Physicians, serving as Governor for Virginia from 1966-72; in 1982 he received the signal honor of being elected Master of the College.

During his academic career he produced 54 research or clinical publications, a revision of Grant's Clinical Electrocardiography, and his magnum opus, Basic Electrocardiography and Vectorcardiography, which appeared posthumously. His skills in patient care and administration were matched by those in teaching; twice (in 1970 and 1981) he received the Robley Dunglison Award as the outstanding clinical teacher of students at the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

In 1936 he married Lois Hughes of Lynchburg, a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Nursing. Their family includes four children: Julian R. Beckwith, III, Ph.D., of Athens, Georgia; Lois B. Johnson of Ann Arbor, Michigan; George H. Beckwith, M.D., of New Bern, North Carolina; and Polly B. Hawkes of Hershey, Pennsylvania; and ten grandchildren, including Julian Beckwith IV and Julian Beckwith Johnson.

When Beckwith's health started to decline in July of 1982, he retired to his home in western Albemarle County. Beckwith died on September 17, 1982, at the age of 71. He was buried in the cemetery of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Ivy, where he had long been a faithful member. His memory is preserved by the established Julian R. Beckwith Professorship of Medicine at UVA.

Content Description

The collection consists of newspaper clippings, programs and pamphlets, photographs, caricatures of UVA Medical School faculty, college transcripts, course notes, correspondence, and medical association records.

General

Some materials in this collection contain offensive images and language.

Arrangement

There is no series to this collection. Folders are organized chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Medical War Manual No. 6 Laboratory Methods of the United States Army

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292672

Unit Date 1918

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292673

Unit Date 1928-1958

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Academic Grade Reports-UVA and VA Polytechnic Institute

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292674

Unit Date 1932-1935

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

The University of Virginia Medical Show Playbills

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292675

Unit Date 1933-1940

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Fraternity

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292676

Unit Date 1934-1935

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Obstetrics Notes

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292690

Unit Date 1934-1935

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292677

Unit Date 1935-1953

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

University of Virginia Department of Medicine pamphlets

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292678

Unit Date 1936-1975

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Virginia Chapter of Sigma Xi

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292679

Unit Date 1940

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Article Reprints

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292680

Unit Date 1941-1942

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Various Virginia Medical Society Event Programs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292681

Unit Date 1954-1957

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Photographs of Beckwith and UVA University Hospital

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292682

Unit Date 1956

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Caricatures of Faculty by James Pope

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292683

Unit Date 1966

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Drawings were done by James Pope over his four years of medical school at UVA.

General

File contains offensive images and language.

Dr. John A. Owen. Jr. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292684

Unit Date 1966-1967

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

"Housestaff" Professional Staff Caricatures

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292685

Unit Date 1966

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

General

File contains offensive images and language.

Med Alum News I

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292686

Unit Date 1966-1985

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Included in the folder are "Maintaining a Tradition of Excellence" draft and notes, UVA SOM state approved funds, and UVA Health Science Advancement Award 1966-1971.

Beckwith Family Genealogy Notes

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292687

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Photographs of Military Health Checks

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/292688

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

General

Images containing nudity.