

Shetlar Family



The Shetlar name came to this area when James F. Shetlar M.D. came to Frankenmuth in November 1972 to assume the practice of Dr. Frederick P. Brender. As of the year 2005, Dr. Shetlar continues to serve many families as a Family Practice Physician in Frankenmuth. He, also, has the distinction of being the longest tenured physician in Frankenmuth history.

Dr. Shetlar was born December 26, 1944 in Wichita, Kansas to Luther Francis and Dorothy Marie Taylor Shetlar. Jim grew up on a farm, whose primary business was Holsteins. He was active in 4-H and, in 1962, was named Kansas State 4-H Dairy Champion. In 1963, he was named National Holstein Young Farmer of the year.

Dr. Shetlar graduated from Conway Springs High School in 1962. He graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Kansas State University in 1966. He was elected to Phi Kappa Phi. He attended the University of Kansas School of Medicine graduating in 1970 with superior rating in Internal Medicine and Psychiatry.

On June 21, 1969, Dr. Shetlar married Dorothy Anne Ehrlich. They were married until 2001 and had three children.

Dr. Shetlar married Janet Louise Cook Schumm in 2002. They have a blended family of six children and together they have one son. Their family consists of: Amy Katherine (born May 29, 1974), Michael James (born August 11, 1977) and Marisa Kay Shetlar (born July 18, 1979); Sarah Kathryn, Thomas George and David Lawrence Schumm; and James Frances Shetlar II, born October 2007.

Janet was born in Mendon, Michigan to Robert I. Cook and Sarah Marion Rice. She attended Alma College and received a Bachelor of Arts in English earning a Secondary Education degree and Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1970 and a Master of Library Science degree from Central Michigan in 1986. Janet taught school and Library for 23 years.

Dr. Shetlar has been very active in the medical field. He was elected president of the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians in 1988. In 1990, he became the first physician from Michigan to be elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Board of Family Practice, which is the governing board of the specialty of Family Practice. In 1993, he was elected vice president of the board. He was awarded the Frederick and Bessie Moulton Plessner Memorial Award, which honors a Michigan family physician who exemplifies ideals of service to his fellow citizens.

Jim and Janet have been active members of the Frankenmuth community. They are both Rotarians and members of the St. Lorenz Lutheran Church.

The Shetlar family tree has been traced back into the 1700's in the United States, although it is not known for sure when they came to America. It is felt that the spelling was changed to the present form from Schuttler and that some of the families were covered wagon makers in the area of Chicago and Taylorville, Illinois. The Taylor family has been researched extensively and is published in detail in the book, "From Sea to Shining Sea", by Dr. Shetlar's uncle, Ralph A. Taylor. The Taylor family has several relatives who came here in the 1600s and are registered as Founders of Early America.



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