



An Industry Leader Assumes a New Role: Doc Kennedy Says Goodbye in His Own Way

G.F. “Doc” Kennedy, DVM has never been inclined to fit himself into any mold, which is why he’s chosen his own way of winding down his career. Don’t call it retirement, though.

“Doc will still be active and visible around the Pipestone Veterinary Clinic office,” explains Dr. Gordon Spronk, “but he will be taking more time to enjoy the fruits of a long and successful career.”

Read Doc Kennedy’s letter to Pipestone System Shareholders below.

Thanks for the Opportunity to Serve

By G.F. “Doc” Kennedy, DVM

On January 1, 2010 I divested my financial interest in the Pipestone Veterinary Clinic and most of the System companies. I will continue as a managing member of Pipestone Artificial Breeders and remain on with the other companies as an employee, advisor, and consultant.



When I graduated from veterinary school in 1960 I understood it would be my obligation to serve my clients well because I needed to pay back the opportunity provided me. I assumed I would be treated well in return, and I have been.

My work has been a rewarding experience for me and for my family. Most of my friends are people I work with every day, which explains why I’ve stayed this long and why I choose to remain connected with this clinic. It’s what I live for.

There’s been a lot to enjoy in my life’s work. Helping the Pipestone Vet Clinic grow has been memorable. I’m confident it will continue to serve our clients in Minnesota and Iowa and across the nation (through our sheep program) with the best care and new technology.

Business responsibilities forced me to pass up certain options earlier in life; I can now do those things. Deb and I look forward to cooler temperatures in the summer at our lodge in Alaska as well as being able to enjoy extended hunting trips in the fall. I am relieved that I no longer have to make final business decisions, though I will still have influence and be able to coach.

Some years back, I was interviewed by an FBI agent who said, “Don’t try to pass yourself off as a country bumpkin veterinarian...I know you are a sophisticated businessman.” I laughed and said, “I hope I’m somewhere in-between.”

That’s where I am now—somewhere in between—less involved in day-to-day operations but no less interested. And, I’m thankful for the opportunity to serve you.