

CLASS OF '78

Class Notes



Photo: Allegheny General Hospital

David Dattilo (D.D.S. '78)

The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (AAOMS) selected DAVID DATTILO as the recipient of the 2020 Donald Osbon Outstanding

Educator Award. This is a national award in recognition of his contributions to the education and training of students in pre-doctoral and resident training. The award is to be presented in September at the AAOMS national meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dattilo completed his OMFS training at the University of Pittsburgh in 1984 when he began his tenure as Director of OMFS at the Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh. In 2004, he was appointed Chairman and Program director at Allegheny General Hospital as well as associate professor of surgery at Drexel University School of Medicine. He has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks on the subjects of obstructive sleep apnea and maxillofacial reconstruction.

CLASS OF '96

After three years, 13 specialists and nine emergency room experiences, Tara Zier was diagnosed with Stiff Person Syndrome in 2017. The rare neurological disease forced her out of her beloved dental practice in Northern Virginia and into advocacy work. She created a foundation to raise awareness and funds for research to find better treatments and a cure for the disease that's often confused with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's, fibromyalgia, psychosomatic illness, anxiety, phobia, and other autoimmune diseases. Patients are often disabled, wheelchair bound or bed-ridden, unable to work and care for themselves. Dr. Zier encourages her classmates to learn more on the web at <https://stiffperson.org/>.



Tara Zier (D.D.S. '96)