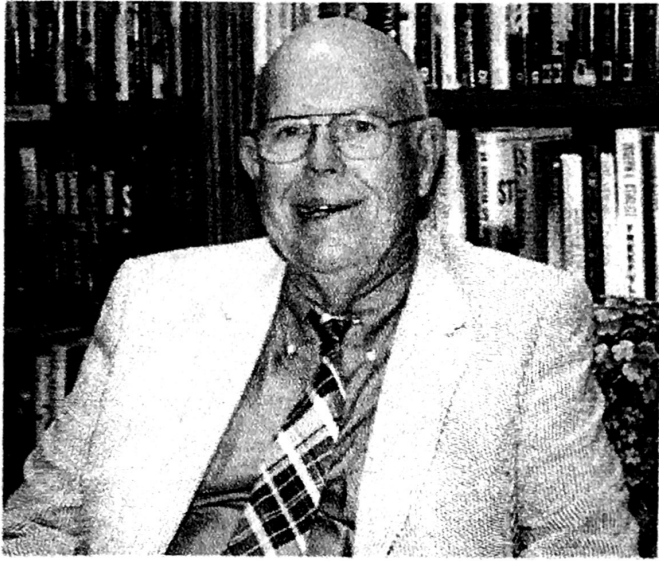


Welcome, New Resident ~

Charles Graham
Apartment 5103



~ by Geri Madigan, photo by John Kinniburgh

Our new neighbor may be new to Falcons, but he's certainly not new to the area. **Dr. Charles M. Graham, Jr.**, was born and grew up in Purcellville, Va., attended college and medical school in Richmond, Va., and spent his career practicing in Virginia. A true Virginian through-and-through! Thomas Jefferson, himself, would have been happy to call him friend.

After graduating from Lincoln High School in Lincoln, Va., Charlie attended the University of Richmond for his pre-med studies. From there, he went a short distance to the Medical College of Virginia where he received an MD, did his internship, and completed his residency in 1963. In 1963 and 1964, he was a full-time instructor in OB-GYN at the Medical College. Deciding to go into private practice, he settled in Radford, Va., for the next 35 years. This tenure was interrupted for two years when he joined the U.S. Army Medical Corps as Chief of Obstetrics-Gynecology at Lyster Army Hospital in Fort Rucker, Ala. Throughout the years, he played a serious game of golf, winning more than a few tournaments. Once he retired in 1999, he found himself playing it on a more regular basis—that is, until he decided golf five times a week was not how he wanted to spend the rest of his life. And so he went back to work, this time as First Assistant in the operating room at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center in Radford.

At this point, Charlie started thinking about giving up the big house and yard work (sound familiar?) and started

looking for a good place to get away from all of that. In 2006, he went to Reston Hospital where he still works three days a week as First Assistant Surgery (OR-OB). At Reston, he heard a good bit about Falcons Landing and decided to look into it. With not much hesitation, he moved into apartment 5103 in June of this year. That is, he "almost" moved in. Presently, he's existing with some rented furnishings while awaiting the sale of his home in Pinehurst, N.C., at which time his household effects will be transferred here. THEN, he will feel like he's settled. When that happens, and he's really retired, he hopes to get involved in some of the many activities here at Falcons.

Charlie recalls many interesting observations made during his 50 plus years of medical practice. A rather surprising one is that when he first started delivering babies, only three percent of the deliveries were C-section, and they were usually medically necessary, not by choice. That number today is 45% and some simply by choice.

Dr. Graham has had numerous board appointments in his career, including the Radford City School Board; the Wesley Foundation, Radford University; Radford's Grove United Methodist Church, as Board Chairman; Medical Staff Chairman of the Radford Community Hospital and a member of the Board of Directors; Blue Cross Blue Shield Board of Directors, Roanoke, Va.; and Virginia OB-GYN Board on the Southwest Virginia Medical Legal Panel for malpractice cases.

The Graham family includes a daughter in Las Vegas, Nev., who has worked with the Hartford Insurance Company for some 14 years; a son in Riverside, Calif., whose work is with a large Recruiting Firm matching people and talents and career choices; and a son in Roanoke, Va., who is manager of a major construction firm. Charlie is the proud grandfather of a granddaughter who is a senior in high school, another granddaughter nine years old, and a grandson, seven.

Like Thomas Jefferson himself, Charlie, we are happy to call you friend and extend to you a hearty welcome to Falcons Landing.