

Testimony of Dr. Larry Markley

Previous Owner of All Creatures Veterinary Clinic & Lodge – Rittman, OH

Board Member of the Wayne County Community Foundation

University of Akron Wayne College 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award

As a veterinary practitioner of 40 plus years and several MD family members, watching the growth and changes as practitioners we have marveled at the similar paths over history with the same results just with veterinary medicine following 20 years behind. We created our own shortage of veterinarians because of not being able to open our minds to the future. The veterinary schools have focused on specialties and not general practice and overall client and patient needs. We as practitioners over the years have done countless hours of telemedicine and not been paid for it but it built relationships and avoided a lot of trips and people of lesser qualifications giving the wrong information. New graduate veterinarians as a whole will not answer a phone or discuss a possible emergency with a client. Telemedicine is desperately needed, if only to advise people. Many do not have \$5, \$10, \$15,000 dollars for a broken bone at an emergency clinic and if they knew alternatives other than euthanasia through a quick telemedicine consult a pet's life could be saved. I have answered calls from people at the emergency clinic many times. It doesn't build popularity with the ER but pet care is what we are here for.

Thank you

Larry D. Markley DVM