



March 19, 2024

To the family and friends of Dr. Susan Anderson,

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians, I would like to express our condolences for your recent loss.

Our success as a specialty is due, in large part, to the dedication and support of our members. We truly appreciate Dr. Anderson's contributions and commitment to the Academy and the specialty of family medicine.

Dr. Anderson was chosen by her peers to represent medical school departments of family medicine across the nation on a thought-leading steering committee to lead a unique endeavor of her profession. The group of visionaries set their sights on solving the toughest challenges in advancing family medicine – growing a workforce able to meet the rising needs of the nation. Her work in her state was exemplary among her peers, and they knew she was the person to lead in this national effort.

The America Needs More Family Doctors steering committee held themselves to a high standard for learning from what had been tried in decades before and vowing to try things differently to achieve different results. Dr. Anderson's influence and passion led the committee to see new opportunities to engage students and educators along the pathways even earlier than medical school. She then rolled up her sleeves and volunteered to lead a national, interprofessional working group to guide the first-ever national partnership with her professional organizations and the high school and college community.

The unique group was united by the vision Dr. Anderson portrayed, and was successful in creating a new national program because of her follow-through and willingness to both lead and do the work.

In the years since, the Family Medicine Physician events created by this team and HOSA Future Health Professionals has gained momentum and become rooted in states across the country, engaging hundreds and even thousands of students and advisors with the potential to grow exponentially.

Even through her national service, Dr. Anderson stayed true to her school and to her state as an ever-present mentor and role model for her students and faculty. Countless students and professionals were personally impacted by her, and credit her for their professional path.

The loss of such special members of family medicine is a sad moment in the history of our discipline. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

R. Shawn Martin  
Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer