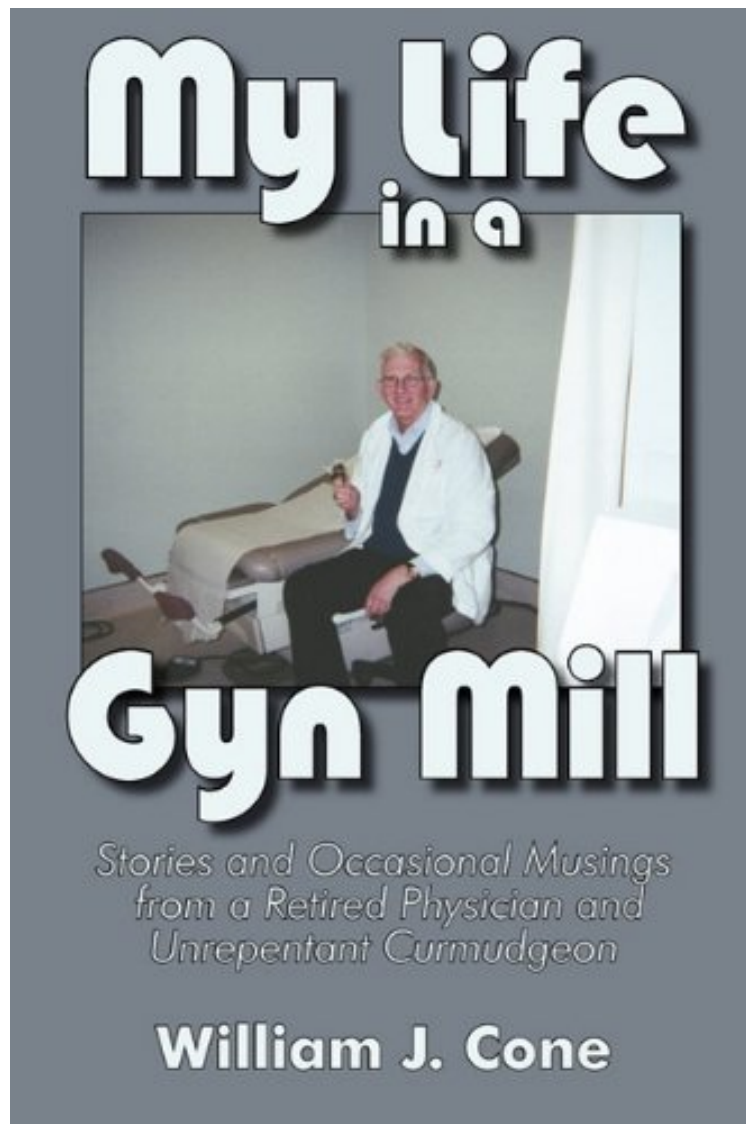


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My Life in A Gyn Mill Stories and Occasional Musings from a Retired Physician and Unrepentant Curmudgeon

William J Cone

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William J Cone : My Life in A Gyn Mill Stories and Occasional Musings from a Retired Physician and Unrepentant Curmudgeon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Life in A Gyn Mill Stories and Occasional Musings from a Retired Physician and Unrepentant Curmudgeon:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. laughing at lifeBy Robert J. HiggsFor whatever reasons, ontological or otherwise, the idea of the holy is quite commensurate with the idea of comedy The gatherings at funeral homes to pay respects to neighbors of family who have passed away can and often does, especially in the rural South, become a celebration of precious memories, loaded with laughter not that the deceased is gone but mightily appreciated while he was with us. Like love, humor bonds across the grave and the years. The pattern works the same way at the beginning of life, as scripture makes clear. Abraham was a hundred and Sarah past ninety and when the angel told them in the words of Frederick Buechner that "the stork was on the way at last," Abraham laughed `till he fell on his face' (Gen.17.7and "Sarah stood cackling behind the tent door so the angel wouldn't think she was being rude as the tears streamed down her face." When the baby finally came, they even called him "Laughter"--which is what Isaac means in Hebrew--because obviously no other name would do." Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who? (1997)While ministers and undertakers attend to our exit from the world, OB/ Gyn physicians handle the rituals of our beginnings, priests of a different kind in white robes in contrast to dark ones, both the coming and going miracles and mysteries and often occasions for humor as in the case with Bill Cone's narrative of his life in a "Gyn Mill."Quite simply the book is hilarious. Depending on how fast or slow you read there is a laugh a minute or at least one on every page and sometimes more. It is a short book of fewer than a hundred pages proving again that brevity is the soul of wit. Speaking of wit, an added pleasure is seeing Bill Cone's nimble mind at work in his skillful use of language, a knowledge derived from a lifetime of reading and writing and collecting treasured first editions of literature. He loves language itself as well as funny stories and you do not have to search for evidence of any. It's all in plain view. The famous animal scientist Konrad Lorenze in his book On Aggression said that "the two great hopes for humankind are humor and knowledge." In this small book there is plenty of both, plenty of laughter and greater understanding of the medical profession from the first-hand experience of Bill Cone as a caring and trusted physician. We needed more of these kinds of narratives during the health care debates in order to gain a deeper knowledge of medicine and for the civility of discourse that humor can bring such as seen in these memorable metaphors: "Aesculapius is the god of medicine and healing. His staff has one snake. Mercury is the god of merchants and thieves. His staff has two snakes. Some folks find it amusing when the staff of mercury is seen on some hospitals and doctor's offices." "I would not be surprised but very pleased to learn that readers around the country are enjoying this unusual book. Robert J. Higgs, Professor Emeritus of English, East Tennessee State University

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Amusing anecdotesBy BonnyCone's book contains amusing anecdotes about medical school training and many years of gynecological and obstetrical practice.

Take a brief look at a life spent in the "Gyn Mill" as Dr. Cone shares stories about medical school, hilarious tales from his practice and thoughts about the current transition from "caring to commercial" in the health care community. From the book: Talking with my patients about their lives and families was a great pleasure. Thanks to the bureaucrats and minute counters, this experience in many offices has gone the way of the buggy whips. A most upbeat older patient, after elaborating some of her problems, looked up at me and said, "But you know, with the troubles I have, I'm grateful wrinkles don't hurt." The loyalty of long-time patients was once exhibited by an octogenarian and her friend, also a patient, who told me, "Lena and I are furious with you for retiring. We decided we would rather change husbands than gynecologists." Late night call: "My wife is in terrible pain." "Please put her on, I need to talk to her." "Oh, she's asleep." Duh! About the Author: William J. Cone is a retired (unemployed) Ob/Gyn physician. He has had essays, critiques and profiles published in several magazines and is also the author of So You're Retiring ... A Guy's Guide to Being at Home (Seaboard Press). He enjoys writing, reading, gardening, playing tennis and collecting first editions. Currently, he resides in Tennessee but lived in New Orleans earlier in his career.