

The American Board of Orthodontics awards the 2019 Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Barry S. Briss



Dr. Barry S. Briss

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) presented the Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award to **Barry S. Briss, D.M.D., M.S.**, of Brookline, Mass., on Saturday, May 4 at the annual luncheon of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics, which was held in conjunction with the 2019 Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) in Los Angeles, Calif.

The Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award was established to perpetuate Dr. Earl Shepard's outstanding accomplishments and to show appreciation for his many contributions as the first executive director of the ABO and those of his wife, Wilma, who was highly involved with her husband's efforts to fulfill the ABO's goals. This award recognizes an individual for outstanding dedication and advancement of the ideals and mission of the ABO.

Dr. Briss graduated from Tufts Dental School in 1966, served two years in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps and then obtained his orthodontic specialty certificate from Tufts in 1970. He then established a private practice northwest of Boston.

He joined the part-time orthodontic faculty of Tufts as a clinical instructor immediately upon graduating the program. In 1977 he was promoted to assistant clinical professor and in 1998 was appointed chairman and program director and associate professor. He became a full professor in 2006 and remained as chairman and program director until February 2014 when he retired after having devoted 32 years to the program.

He was president of the Tufts Association of Orthodontists in 1991 and 1992 and received a number of awards from his residents and the alumni association for his dedication to teaching and to the program. He now teaches part-time at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

Board certified since 1984, Dr. Briss served as an ABO director from 2004 to 2012 and as president from 2011-2012. He continues to be an examiner for the ABO Clinical Examination.

In 2011 he received the Dr. Frederick Moynihan Service Award from the Massachusetts Association of Orthodontists for outstanding contribution and dedication to the education of Massachusetts orthodontists. He served as president of the Edward H. Angle Society

of Orthodontists Eastern Component in 1997-1998, and received its Distinguished Service Award in 2013. He is a past board member of the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists and the Eastern Association of Strang-Tweed Study Clubs.

On receiving the award, Dr. Briss said, "I was quite surprised to learn that I would be receiving this award. I certainly do not feel any more worthy of this honor than any other director. It is a wonderful thing to be recognized by one's peers and I am deeply touched and honored by it."

He added, "We are in an age when orthodontic services are being delivered by a myriad of providers many of whom are ill-equipped to do so. Orthodontics is the only "pure" specialty in the entire field of dentistry. If we are to survive as a true specialty, we must educate the public to recognize that fact and understand that seeking the services of a **board-certified** orthodontist is important to their health and well-being."