

## 2021 ACVS Foundation Legends Award

Clarence A. Rawlings, DVM, PhD, Diplomate, ACVS, is the recipient of the ACVS Foundation Legends Award for his dedication and contributions to the field of veterinary surgery.

Dr. Rawlings is a professor emeritus at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. He is a past president of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and still directs Veterinary Endoscopy Training Symposia at the University of Georgia. He is a founding member of the Veterinary Endoscopy Society and a co-editor of the definitive work on minimally invasive endoscopy, *Small Animal Endoscopy*.

Dr. Rawlings is a pioneer in both the development and teaching of laparoscopic surgical procedures. He developed numerous procedures that are in general use today, including laparoscopic-assisted gastropexy, laparoscopic-assisted cystotomy for calculi removal, and soft palate resection using the LigaSure vessel sealing device.

He has popularized the notion that minimally invasive soft tissue procedures are both possible and worth pursuing in veterinary patients. Residents are required to have experience with these procedures to meet residency training requirements. Dr. Rawlings' work has encouraged veterinary surgeons throughout the world to expand the use of minimally invasive procedures to even the most complicated cases.

*"It is not often that someone's contributions to veterinary surgery open up an entirely new sub-specialty,"* noted a colleague.



**Clarence A. Rawlings, DVM, PhD  
Diplomate, ACVS**

### Past recipients of the ACVS Foundation Legends Award:

2005 - George P. Wilson, VMD, MSc, DACVS  
2006 - Martin P. DeAngelis, DVM, DACVS  
2007 - Charles W. Raker, VMD, DACVS  
2008 - Marvin L. Olmstead, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2009 - George E. Eyster, VMD, MS, DACVS  
2010 - Larry R. Bramlage, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2011 - Robert L. Leighton, VMD, DACVS  
2012 - H. Phil Hobson, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2014 - Barrie D. Grant, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2015 - Donald L. Piermattei, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2016 - Jon F. Dee, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2017 - Bruce L. Hull, DVM, MS, DACVS  
2018 - Joseph J. Foerner, Jr. DVM, MS, DACVS  
2019 - C. Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, PhD, DACVS  
2020 - Lloyd "Jock" P. Tate, Jr., VMD, DABLSM, MFH, DACVS

*The ACVS Foundation Legends Award recognizes ACVS Diplomates who have developed a surgical or diagnostic procedure of significant value, proven by becoming the test or treatment of choice for a given condition. The procedure or test has "withstood the test of time" and, although possibly modified over time, remains the treatment or diagnostic method of choice or the scientific basis for the current treatment of choice. The procedure or test is novel and involves advancements in veterinary surgical science and not reapplication of general medical science.*