

**Guide and Finding Aid for  
Kenneth R. Harbert Papers, 1972-2007  
Bulk 1982-2000**



**Contact Information:**

Physician Assistant History Society  
12000 Findley Road  
Suite 160  
Johns Creek, GA 30097-1409  
Email: [contactus@pahx.org](mailto:contactus@pahx.org)

## **Abstract**

Contains the papers of Kenneth R. Harbert who, over a span of 35 years, helped establish eight physician assistant programs in the USA. As a clinical administrator at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA, Harbert helped develop some of the first guidelines for the use of physician assistants in hospitals. Harbert is a staunch supporter and leader of Veteran Affairs within the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). He has worked on many projects for the Veterans Caucus and written extensively about the history of the organization. Types of materials include early editions of bylaws, brochures, certificates and newsletters of the AAPA and NCAPA; correspondence, newsletter clippings, manuscripts and reprints. The collection also contains two photographs of Ferrell taken by a photographer from Life Magazine in 1966.

## **Descriptive Summary**

### Repository

Physician Assistant History Society  
12000 Findley Road  
Suite 160  
Johns Creek, GA 30097-1409

### Creator

Kenneth R. Harbert

### Title

Kenneth R. Harbert Papers, 1972-2007

### Call Number

AC2015-007

### Extent

1 box,  
.75 linear feet

## **Administrative Information**

### Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

### Copyright Notice

Copyright for the Society of Physician Assistant History records is held by the Society; all other copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Kenneth R. Harbert Papers, 1968-1989, Society for Preservation of Physician Assistant History, Johns Creek, GA, USA

### Acquisitions Information

Gift to Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History July 5, 2008;  
transferred partially processed from Duke University Medical Center (DUMC) Archives to  
the PA History Society, Johns Creek, GA, August 2011.

#### Processing Information

Processed by Reginald Carter, October 11, 2012

Encoded by TBA

### **Biographical Note**

Kenneth R. Harbert, Ph.D., MHA, PA-C, is a respected clinician, medical educator and administrator who, over a span of 35 years, helped establish eight physician assistant programs in the USA and assisted Drs. Bart van Bergen and Fons Wierink to adapt and develop the physician assistant profession in the Netherlands. Clinically, Harbert has worked in a variety of specialties and settings. As a clinical administrator at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA, Harbert helped develop some of the first guidelines for the use of physician assistants in hospitals. These guidelines were soon adopted by other hospitals throughout the USA. As an educator, Harbert has taught a diverse group of health care providers including post graduate physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, emergency medical technicians, nurses, and medical students. Harbert is a staunch supporter and leader of Veteran Affairs within the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). He has worked on many projects for the Veterans Caucus and written extensively about the history of the organization

Harbert has served on a number of national committees for the American Academy of Physician Assistants, Medical Reserve Corp, Department of Defense, and the Health Resources and Services Administration, National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. He served as the Vice President and Chair of the Small Grants committee for the Physician Assistant Foundation. He was a charter board member of the Pennsylvania Society of PAs, The Maryland Academy of PAs and the DC Chapter of PAs. He was a charter board member of the Association of Post Graduate Physician Assistant Programs.

### **Collection Overview**

Organized into the following series: Papers, 1972-2007

### **Online Catalog Headings**

These and related materials may be found under the following headings in online catalogs.

Physician Assistants--USA

Physician Assistants—History

American Academy of Physician Assistants

American Academy of Physician Assistants—Veterans Caucus

Veterans--American--1980-2000

## **Collection Series**

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1972-2007

Series 2: Artifacts

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### **Series 1: Papers, 1972-2007**

This collection contains materials from several PA educational programs and the AAPA Veterans Caucus, personal correspondence, magazine and newspaper clippings, reprints, newsletters of the AAPA Veterans Caucus, manuscripts written by Dr. Harbert, and brochures and pamphlets from educational programs, the AAPA and the Veterans Caucus. The collection also contains a bound book with copied articles about the PA profession in the USA as a reading source for Arnhem-Nijmegen University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Box 1

AAPA Newsletter June-July 1983

Allegheny University PA Program 25th Anniversary Book 1997

Brochures 1980, 1985

Clarence Conner H73 1991

Clippings 1971-1985

Clinical Curriculum for PA Students GSCH Washington DC 1982

Correspondence 1981-2002

Honoring Four Great Americans, Magazine and Photo 2003

Inholland Graduate School Bulletins 2009

Manuscript, Life Savers Then...Caregivers Now, 1980

Manuscript, Corpsmen UP

Manuscript, The Creation of God Loves a Grunt, 2007

Miscellaneous

Newsletter Articles about Veterans Caucus 1984-1996

PA Update "PAs at Geisinger Med Center"

Pedro Antonio Colon HIM WO1 1972-1974

Pictorial George Washington University Class 1973 1973

Reprints 1973-1985

Reprint, De Physician Assitant Is Geen LoopJongen May 2002

Richard Rocco USA WO4

Veterans Caucus 1985-1988

Veterans Caucus Newsletters, 1985-1998

Veterans Caucus 20th Anniversary Commemorative Journal 2000

Articles and Documents on Interest Regarding Use of PAs in US, April 2002

### **Series 2: Artifacts, Undated**

Box 2

APAP Ken Harbert pin

Framed Article: The Tenth Annual PA Conference

Framed Article: Unpaid Debt

Navy PAs Endangered Species Pin

Trust Me I'm a Physician Assistant pin