

## News about Nobles—Yesterday, Today; Here, There, Everywhere



**Our dear friends from Akdar Shrine**, John Spurgeon and Eugene Gourd, drove to Chicago from Tulsa recently, bringing Berwin Moses, Jr., a Pawnee youth, for treatment here at SHC – Chicago. (See photo, left.) That's a 24-hour trip for these Nobles, made with happiness for themselves and satisfaction for their patient. Noble Eugene, a member of the Cherokee tribe, is the Director of the Indian Unit of Akdar. Drivers from Akdar serve 1,300 SHC patients in the Tulsa area, traveling 320 miles to SHC – Shreveport; 550 miles to SHC – Galveston; 370 miles to SHC – St. Louis, and 700 miles to SHC – Chicago. What other organization provides volunteers who donate their lives to serve children as Shriners do across North America! Thank you, John and Eugene! Thank you, all Nobles, who serve our children and our hospitals so generously!



**Elf Khurafeh Noble Bob Carroll** has a fondness for the space mural in the Lobby of SHC – Chicago. You see, Bob, in another life, was boatswain's mate third class in the U.S. Navy. He was the first man to touch the *Discoverer XIII* satellite when it hit the Pacific Ocean on August 11, 1960. A crew member of the Pacific Missile Range's Surface Recovery Unit, Bob leaped into the Pacific from a helicopter to successfully retrieve the first capsule orbited and returned from space. For this meritorious achievement, Bob was the first Navy diver to receive the "Air Force Medal." In the photo, left, Noble Bob practices recovery with a dummy-capsule. In the photo, right, he poses with Yours Truly in front of the space mural here at SHC – Chicago. We are honored to have this distinguished Navy veteran (1951-70) as Noble, driver, and friend. Thank you, Brother Bob!



**When Saladin Noble Gary Norstrant** is not busy helping Shrine kids, he's helping other kids. Gary, you see, besides being a Shrine driver, is a volunteer at Forest View Elementary School, Cadillac, MI, where he is, according to a recent article in *Our Community* publication of *Cadillac News*, "Tooth extractor, tutor, a go-to person." Every day, for the last 10 years, Gary has been at a desk in the hallway outside the primary grade classrooms, where he helps students with math--or whatever their needs are. Teachers and administrators love Brother Gary—and so do the students. Principal Andy Brown said, "Not only does he help with academics, but he builds relationships with these kids that carry through the years. The bond he builds is true. . . . He's making deposits into their lives. It's amazing." A teacher commented, "All of the kids in our school are better math students because of him." And a second grade student said, "He helps me with math and he helps us with our teeth. He pulls out teeth. He hasn't pulled mine out yet because I'm taking care of my teeth." In the photo left, Emalyse Higgins poses with Noble Gary at Forest View School. We are proud of Gary's total commitment to children, at SHC and at the elementary school. His commitment is representative of the commitments of so many other Nobles across the country, across the continent. If we were to write a biography of our drivers—it would be a best-seller!