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### **Dr. G. William Cotts celebrates over 50 years practicing medicine in the western suburbs.**

*La Grange, IL (March 1, 2007)* – For more than 50 years, Dr. G. William Cotts has practiced medicine in the western suburban communities of Adventist La Grange and Hinsdale. He is often credited with being the cardiology pioneer of the western suburbs. After attending Northwestern University for his bachelors and medical degrees, Dr. Cotts began practicing medicine at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital in 1956. He began his solo practice focused on internal medicine. In the late 1960s, Dr. Cotts became extremely interested in the relatively new field of cardiology, and returned to academia to obtain specialized training in this exciting new field. In 1970, he completed his cardiology fellowship at Hines VA Hospital. After completing his goal of becoming certified in the subspecialty field of cardiovascular disease in 1971, he started West Suburban Cardiologists, known today as Illinois Heart and Vascular.

In the early 1970s, specialized healthcare was primarily delivered in urban academic medical centers. West Suburban Cardiologists' founder and Hinsdale resident G. William Cotts, M.D. became convinced that local community hospitals needed more than just basic cardiovascular coverage and would in fact benefit with advanced cardiac diagnostic procedures that would help save and prolong lives, and that high quality cardiac care could safely be delivered in their communities with the same level of expertise as the urban medical centers. With advanced training, hard work, and perseverance, this vision became a reality as Dr. Cotts founded the first cardiac catheterization laboratory in the western suburbs at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital in 1972. Cotts and his team performed the first coronary angiogram and ushered in the beginning of world class heart care in his community. In 1973, Dr. Cotts helped develop the first cardiac care unit (CCU) in the western suburbs at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. He also went on to assist in the development of the cardiac program at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital several years later. As pioneers in modern cardiac medicine, his team was the first in the area to perform cardiac interventions (angioplasty) and stents, the use of a swan ganz catheter, elective cardioversion using D.C. synchronized shock, and the first external direct current cardioversion during acute myocardial infarction at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital.

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**Illinois Heart and Vascular**  
*Compassionate Care. Experienced Physicians. Newest Technology.*

Today, his dream is a thriving reality and the practice is at the forefront of cardiovascular medicine. The compassionate care that originally built Dr. Cotts' practice and West Suburban Cardiologists in Hinsdale and La Grange, grew to the communities in Westchester, Oak Lawn, Palos Heights, Tinley Park and Chicago.

In 2006, West Suburban Cardiologists changed its name to Illinois Heart and Vascular, to better identify with the communities it serves and to better reflect the full extent of cardiovascular services offered.

Dr. Cotts was a leader in his hospitals where he cared for his patients and was very active in his communities. His positions included: Director of Cardiology, Director of Cardiac Laboratory at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, Chairman of Medicine at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital and Hinsdale Hospital, and Medical Staff President of Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, member of the Cardiac Society for Angiography and Interventions and its Board of Trustees and Chairman of its Credentialing Committee, President of the Chicago Heart Association in affiliation with the American Heart Association, Clinical Professor at Loyola Stritch School of Medicine, and member of the Board of Directors at Plymouth Place.

**About Illinois Heart and Vascular**

For more than 30 years, Illinois Heart and Vascular (formerly West Suburban Cardiologists) has been specializing in the diagnosis, treatment and management of cardiac diseases through compassionate care, experienced physicians and access to the newest technology. For more information, please visit [www.illinoisheart.com](http://www.illinoisheart.com).

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