Former general practitioner, Wilmslow, Cheshire, (b 2 November 1926; q St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London, 1955), d 4 May 2004.

Angus (Gus) was born in Topsham, the ancient port for Exeter, and educated in Exeter and Exmouth. He developed the desire to become a doctor early in life, influenced by the experiences of being treated for first a squint and then two broken arms. Unfortunately the war intervened and he was called up in 1944. He was selected for officer training and commissioned into the Gordon Highlanders. After active service in France in 1945 he proceeded to Palestine, where he became a counter-terrorist officer. He was too efficient for some and appeared on a terrorist group’s death list, which he took to be a compliment! He was present at the aftermath of the infamous bombing of the King David Hotel. He left the army in 1948 and, after resuming his studies, entered St Bartholomew’s Hospital Medical School in 1949. He qualified in 1955 and did his house jobs in Plymouth.

He moved to Wilmslow, Cheshire, in 1958 and entered partnership. After his partner retired in 1969 he was able to develop the practice as he saw fit. Visionary at the time he developed one of the first large multiskilled practices in Cheshire. The partnership was built on complete financial and intellectual equality, with all partners being encouraged to develop their skills by undertaking hospital posts, a novelty at the time. He was very active in local medical management and politics, serving as vice chairman of the Macclesfield Health Authority and as treasurer of the local medical committee for many years.

He retired in 1989 but was much in demand on the lecture circuit in the north west. He was above all a very wise and kind man, always ready to challenge the status quo and to provoke discussion. A great raconteur and wit who was the life and soul of many social functions.

He is survived by his wife, Ann, and a son and daughter, all medically qualified. [F E Luscombe, H C Macdonald]