

An Inspiration for Organized Optometry

Dr. Ralph Dinin, a proud NJSOP member at 102 years young

2026 NJSOP MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Why Optometry Matters to Me

"This profession has served me well. Over a lifetime in optometry, I have seen the profession evolve from basic vision correction to comprehensive medical eye care, improving patient outcomes and shaping a lasting legacy."



Dr. Ralph Dinin

Dr. Dinin is a 1950 graduate of New England College of Optometry, NJSOP member since 1952, and a past leader of the Essex County Optometric Society.



This year, Dr. Dinin reached out to NJSOP after seeing the recent AOA membership service awards list for members who hit the milestones of 25, 45, 50, and 60 years of membership. He wanted to share his optometry career path which started in the 1940s.

Raised in New York, he served our country in World War II before returning home to graduate from the New England College of Optometry (NECO) in 1950, fulfilling a dream first declared in his high school yearbook "to become an optometrist." Dr. Dinin joined NJSOP at the beginning of his career, served as a leader in the Essex County Optometric Society, and devoted 42 years to caring for patients in Verona, NJ. He saw the profession of optometry grow from basic vision correction to including medical eye care, a transformation he credits to the powerful advocacy of organized optometry.

Married for 66 years to wife Pauline, proud father of Andrew and Sue, and now a grandfather/great-grandfather many times over, he cherishes his personal life as well as his professional achievements. He warmly celebrated his 100th birthday surrounded by family, community heroes, and honors including a French Medal of Honor. He shares his inspiring journey this year, demonstrating to our members and aspiring optometrists that a life of service, commitment, and vision can truly be remarkable.