Bascom Slemp Waugh was born on 9 December 1908 to the late Wiley Benjamin Waugh and the late Gillyard Johnson Waugh in Glade Springs, Virginia. Dr. Waugh received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College before interning at Freedmen’s Hospital, (now Howard University Hospital), Washington, DC, 1935. On 20 December 1943, he married Alberta Inez Foye.

A World War II veteran, Dr. Waugh (Captain) was a Flight Surgeon for the 332nd Fighter Group. Dr. Waugh was one of the first two African American Doctors to be trained alongside Caucasian Physicians in the Army’s School of Aviation near San Antonio, Texas. He joined 17-other African American Flight Surgeons supporting Tuskegee trained Pilots. Dr. Waugh was one of only 6-Flight Surgeons who served in combat in the European theater during the war.

Dr. Waugh served in the European theater from 1944-1945. While assigned to the 301st Fighter Squadron, a black and white photograph of Dr. Waugh was taken (showing him removing shrapnel from the leg of 99th Fighter Squadron Pilot Lee Rayford) and is on display in the Chanute Air Museum (now, Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum). When Dr. Waugh returned home from the war in 1946, he opened a family medical practice in Camden, New Jersey. He made house calls and treated patients whether they could pay or not, sometimes accepting gifts of food in exchange for treatment. In 1950, Dr. Waugh became the first African American Doctor to join the medical staff at Cooper Hospital (now Cooper University Hospital) in Camden, NJ specializing in Internal Medicine and Cardiology. In 1984, Dr. Waugh became Director of Medicine, Camden County Medical Complex. He was a role model for African Americans interested in health care careers. Dr. Waugh was the first African American President of the Camden County Heart Association. He also taught at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine. Other positions he held were as follows: Director Medicine Camden County Hospital Complex, 1984. Assistant in Medicine Jefferson Medical College, 1957, Instructor Medicine, since 1962, Associate Clinical Medicine, 1966—1970, Assistant Professor Clinical Medicine, since 1970. Dr. Waugh maintained a family medical practice until his death in 1992.

Dr. Waugh’s military education and awards: Unknown. Dr. Waugh’s civilian education includes: Bachelor of Science Degree, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD, 1930; Doctor of Medicine, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN, 1935; Postgraduate Degree, University of PA, 1953.

Dr. Waugh’s civic awards, memberships, and honors include: American Medical Association; Aerospace Medical Association; National Medical Association; American Heart Association; Fellow, American College of Physicians; named Noteworthy Internist and Educator by Marquis Who’s Who; and Diplomat, American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Waugh died 23 September 1992 of heart failure. His wife, Alberta Foye Waugh passed away in 2004 in MD. They are survived by daughter Dr. Dyann Anita Waugh, MD, grandson Chike Bascom Waugh Croslin and granddaughter Kigen Rosa Waugh.

In honor of Dr. Waugh’s service to the Camden, NJ medical community, a Memorial Marker is located at or near postal address 507 Haddon Ave, Camden, NJ, 08103, 39° 56.357’ N, 75° 6.778’ W. The Marker is at the intersection of Haddon Avenue and South 9th Street, on the left when traveling south on Haddon Avenue.