



Lyle Joseph Cowan

April 28, 1933 - September 4, 2023

Dr. Lyle Joseph Cowan MD passed away on September 4, 2023, surrounded by family, at the age of 90.

Lyle was born April 28, 1933 in the farmhouse that his grandfather built, and in the same room that his father was born, in Prairie Green Township in rural Illinois.

He attended elementary school in a one room schoolhouse built by his Grandfather. At any one time, there were not more than 12 other students. Lyle had an insatiable appetite to learn, so he had read all the books that the County Library could supply. It's not surprising that by 7th grade, his teacher who just couldn't keep up with him, had him tested. This resulted in moving him forward to High School, where he graduated with a class of only 6 other classmates.

During the summers he worked on the farm with his father and neighbors, to earn money. From 1950 to 1953 Lyle attended the University of Illinois, where he was a member of the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He made a lot of lifetime friends. He also was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma and Skull and Cross Bones, both were honorary scholastic fraternities.

During the fall of 1952 Lyle was accepted to the University of Illinois Medical

School. Prior to starting medical school, he married his high school sweetheart Jean Marie Zoller, August 8, 1953. They shared a lifetime of love. She was at his side until her passing in September, 2020.

During his years in medical school, Lyle was a member of the medical fraternity Alpha Kappa Kappa. He attended and enjoyed all the parties. Also, during this time, he worked up to 3 part time jobs and full time during the summers.

Lyle graduated from Medical School in 1957, moved to San Diego, CA for post graduate education at San Diego County Hospital, lived on the beach, Jean returned working, he enlisted in the Airforce, and daughter Pam was born.

While in the Airforce, he was sent to the hospital at Fairchild Airforce Base in Spokane, WA. He spent 2 great years doing obstetrics and gynecology. He then left the Airforce in 1960 to join his longtime friend Dr. Pres Bratrude in Omak, WA to practice medicine for the next 35 years. Also, during this time, sons Greg and Barry were born. He was also instrumental in the levy campaign that passed to build Mid Valley Hospital. Lyle was one of 3 developers and owners of the Family Medical Center which eventually became Wenatchee Valley Clinic and later Confluence Health.

Along the way, he purchased and developed Salmon Creek Angus Ranch, raised purebred Black Angus, and purchased a home with a small acreage apple orchard.

Lyle was very community minded. He was a member of many medical organizations, a member of the Omak Presbyterian Church serving as a Deacon, Elder, High School Sunday School teacher, and helping with High School Youth Groups.

He was also on the Board of Directors in the Omak School District, being Chairman of the Board for five years and served on the North Central Educational Board. He served on the Board of Directors of Big O Fruit Co-op, Magi Fruit, Mid Valley Bank and Duck Lake Water Association.

He loved the Okanogan Valley and all the friends he had made over the years. Lyle was especially happy when he met the babies he delivered, who are now adults, and parents themselves. He brushed off the comments about him being an icon in the community, saying that he only cared about people, living his life to the fullest, which he did.

Lyle is survived by daughter Pam Bramer (Gary) and sons Greg Cowan (Darla) and Barry Cowan (Karen). Grandchildren, Whitney Cowan, Sara Mowery (Stephen), Lucas Cowan and great granddaughter Destiny Theis.

A very heartfelt thank you, to Welcome Home Villa, Welcome Home Lodge, Kellie Davies owner, Madison, Christie, Katherine, and the entire care team.

A celebration of Lyle's life, is scheduled for April 26 , 2024 at the Omak Elks Lodge, 11:00 – 2:00.

Previous Events

Celebration

APR **26**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Omak Elks Lodge
110 Ash St S
Omak, WA 98841
(509) 826-7112

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Wonderful memories of both Lyle and Jean as a child and then visiting them in omak with my husband and 2 dogs after backpacking Alaska . They were wonderful hosts and fabulous to catch up with family my mom Evelyn Swartz and my Uncle Leo had raved about visits to Omak for visits and I certainly learned why . My condolences to the family
My email is
Janieswartz@me.com
(I am a retired professor now widowed and spend my time as an old cowgirl on my small ranch in southern Az would be thrilled to see any of my cousins again) !

janie swartz - January 11, 2024 at 08:07 PM



“ Lyle Joseph Cowan

October 23, 2023 at 01:06 AM

DC

“ Lyle was a mentor for me when he was on the Omak School Board and I was in my first years of teaching. That mentoring continued as when I became a member of the school board we had lots to talk about. A truly humble but stellar man that set an example of living life and serving others.

Dennis Carlton - September 07, 2023 at 07:47 PM

SW

Dr Cowan delivered my first child. Took over care of my second born after delivery (by then he retired from delivery). Dr Cowan would quite often go to visit with my husband Ron Wilson @ Price Motors now know as Sunrise Chevrolet. This hurt my heart to see this. Dr Cowan also saved my life when diagnosed with leukemia. Fly high Doc you deserve that. Forever in this families hearts...

Sam Wilson - September 08, 2023 at 02:33 AM

CA

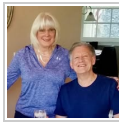
*Dr.Cowan, was my Dr.from the age of 14 until he retired. Always such a humble personable man. He delivered both of children. He helped me through some really tough times! Heaven just received another angel!
Condolences to the family!*

charlotte arns - September 09, 2023 at 11:10 AM

MN

God bless your memory Dr Cowan. Wonderful family doctor, many great memories. Best Wishes to all the family

Mike Nichols - October 29, 2023 at 01:17 AM



Dr Cowan was our father's (Dr. Louis Dewey's) 2nd partner in The Family Medical Center and Mid Valley Hospital. He and Jean were beloved by our family and called "Uncle Lyle and Aunt Jean". My sisters babysat. They were a stellar family who contributed much to the area, and were members of our church. They are together again.

Pamela Schmidt - April 03, 2024 at 04:07 PM