Dr. Frederick Leon Anderson 1937 ~ 2020

Dr. Frederick Leon Anderson, long-time faculty member in the University of Utah's Cardiology Division, passed away peacefully on June 8th, 2020, with his family by his side.

Fred was born November 27th, 1937, to Ernest George Anderson and Garnet Evelyn Eldridge. He married his high school sweetheart, Frances Clara Schaar, on September 9th, 1959. After 58 years of marriage, Frances passed away on November 15, 2017. Fred graduated from South High School in 1955 and the University of Utah in 1960, where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

He attended the University of Utah School of Medicine, graduating in 1964. Dr. Anderson then joined the medical faculty and remained there for his entire professional career where he was a faculty member of the Division of Cardiology. Dr. Anderson held many administrative positions within cardiology, and he was appointed Dean of Admissions for the School of Medicine in 1975, serving until 1981.

From December 1982 through April 1983 he served on the team of doctors caring for Barney Clark, the first recipient of a total artificial heart, and he published on that experience. He also co-authored many other articles on cardiology clinical research topics during his medical career.

Dr. Anderson was foremost an accomplished and devoted physician, known by his patients for his kind and patient demeanor. He also was a knowledgeable and effective teacher for hundreds of medical students, residents, and cardiology fellows as well as fellow medical colleagues and faculty members. Dr. Anderson retired from the University of Utah in 2004 as a practicing cardiologist after 40 years of service.

Fred had many hobbies outside of medicine. He loved to play basketball and golf, had a passion for fishing and music, was an accomplished pianist, and played trumpet in the National Guard and for the Wasatch Orchestra. Fred was a devoted family man and enjoyed spending time and sharing activities with family members through the years. Together with his wife, he served for 18 months as Area Medical Advisor for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for the North Asia Area, which included; Guam, Japan, Korea, and the Federated States of Micronesia. While in Kosrae, he developed a program to prevent valvular heart disease by early detection of rheumatic fever in children.

Dr. Anderson is survived by his four children, Kara (Sid), Mark (Katherine), Michael (Alison) and Julie, 20 grandchildren, 7 greatgrandchildren and his sister Barbara Jensen. He was preceded in death by his wife (Frances) and parents. Those who knew and worked with Dr. Anderson at the University of Utah School of Medicine will miss his warm, caring, friendly personality and his professional judgment and commitment. His contributions have been many, and they have served to uphold the highest standards of cardiology care and to advance medical practice. He will be dearly missed but fondly remembered.



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