



John Ralph Macfarlane

June 1, 1931 - June 15, 2014

John Ralph Macfarlane, M.D., departed this life on June 15, 2014, surrounded by his loving family in Spicewood, Texas. He was born of goodly parents, Hubert Adams and Ora Belle Orton Macfarlane, at Ogden, Weber County, Utah on June 1, 1931. His parents were first generation descendants of original settlers of the serene and unforgiving soil of Southern Utah's Dixie. His grandfather, John Menzies Macfarlane, was widely known as a scientist, advocate and musician who composed the often-performed and triumphal Christmas hymn, *Far, Far Away on Judaea's Plains*.

Dr. Macfarlane attended public schools in Ogden; he was graduated from Ogden High School, and was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts with High Honors by the University of Utah in 1955. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. He attended Cornell University Medical College, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1959. He was elected to Alpha Omega and received The Distinguished Physician Award by vote of his classmates. Post-graduate training was at The New York Hospital—Cornell University Medical Center in Manhattan. He was Resident Surgeon at The New York Hospital in 1966.

Following a brief period of practice in the San Francisco Bay Area, he returned to Northern Utah to establish the Cardio-Vascular Surgery program in Ogden. Following a brief retirement he moved to Artesia, New Mexico, where he practiced until 2006. Since that time he has resided in the Texas Hill Country at Spicewood.

He was married to Sharon Fowles Macfarlane of Ogden and later divorced. They had three children, John Garrett Macfarlane (Carolyn) of Ogden, Roger Thomas Macfarlane, Ph.D. (Karen) of Provo, Utah, and Brooke Karrington (Randall, deceased) of Salt Lake City.

He married Sherry Rae Leydsman in 1991 in Billings, Montana, and they have raised three children, Brian Gregory Norton, CPA (Erika) of Denver, Colorado, Lindsay Norton-Dorn (Matt) of Sherwood, Oregon, and Kellie Norton of Austin, Texas, during a long and intense love affair which continues.

There are fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He is predeceased by all his siblings: Hubert Wayne Macfarlane (1943), Arthur Welling Macfarlane (2008), Karl Orton Macfarlane (1996), Miriam Macfarlane Caldwell (2005), and Beth Macfarlane Orgill Butterfield (2014).

Dr. Macfarlane has been active in community affairs and medical-staff functions. He has been Board Member, later Chairman, of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Utah, Board Member, later Chairman, of the Utah Air Conservation Committee, and President of the New Mexico Chapter, American College of Surgeons.

He was an avid bicyclist and incessant reader. In lieu of flowers, friends may choose to donate in his name to the Spicewood Elementary School Library, Spicewood, TX.

Send donations to Spicewood Elementary

1005 Spur 191

Spicewood, TX 78669

Please indicate in the check's memo-line "library/Ralph Macfarlane".

A memorial service is planned for 28 June 2014 at 11 a.m. at the Marble Falls Ward, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 200 Via Viejo, Marble Falls, TX 78654.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
200 Via Viejo
Marble Falls, TX 78654

Tribute Wall



“ *John Ralph Macfarlane*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *John Ralph Macfarlane*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *John Ralph Macfarlane*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Ralph Macfarlane.*



June 28, 2014 at 10:17 AM



“ *Kelly, My name is Mireya I had the honor to work with you dad at Mobile Doctors. He was a great Doctor and a great person to work for/with. He always talk about you and how he wish he could have done more for you, and wanted to be there for you. He'll be with you always, like the wind. You can't see it but you can feel it. He always had something interesting to talk about and let's not forget the Stop at Starbucks :) I will miss him.*

Mireya Archuleta - June 25, 2014 at 06:29 PM

CH

“ I love you uncle Ralph! You have the best hugs and had the coolest books to read in your library. I will miss you always. You always made me happy. You just had this way about you. Until we meet again I will look at the stars.

Courtney Hadley - June 24, 2014 at 11:01 PM

MW

“ Ralph will always have a special place in my heart. From helping me with my anatomy and physiology homework, dinners at Whole Foods, to coming to my junior and senior cello recitals. He was such a wonderful father, and made Kellie the happiest girl in the world. He will be missed!

Michelle Ferry Williams - June 24, 2014 at 10:04 PM



“ Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of John Ralph Macfarlane.



June 23, 2014 at 09:06 AM

MM

“ Ralph was a heck of a cyclist. We rode many times together. Every time I go over the low water crossing he slipped up I can't help but think of him. Me and your Cannondale miss you my friend.

mike mckenna - June 21, 2014 at 12:29 PM

CM

“ One of the great ones has left us and gone Home. Saddened though I am by the brevity of my acquaintance with him, I am honored to have known Ralph for the few short years I did. This kind and gentle soul who helped so many in his lifetime will be a guidepost to me.

Craig McDougald - June 21, 2014 at 08:44 AM

RK

“ Sherry, we will miss Pedro Macfarlane so much. He was such a sweet soul, a great teacher, and a precious friend. I am so glad I could be with y'all last weekend. May God comfort your heart and sustain you with beautiful memories. Madeleine will be so glad to see him

Rhonda Kilburn - June 20, 2014 at 08:15 PM

WD

Although I knew it was coming, I was still very saddened by this news. Ralph was a consummate physician. Not only was he a gifted cardiovascular surgeon but also a gifted general surgeon and a better Internist than most of the Internists I have known. He was a joy to work with. Aside from medicine he had a far-ranging and keen intellect of unusual range and an outstanding sense of humor. There is nothing like a quick mind. He was another brother for me as well as a trustworthy, reliable, fast and true friend. The handiwork he did on my coronary arteries in 1984 made it possible for me to write this note. I will miss him.

William R. Schmidt, M. D.

William R. Schmidt, M. D. - June 21, 2014 at 09:49 AM