



John Newkirk, M.D.

March 30, 1915 - March 30, 2008

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. - John A. Newkirk, M.D., 93, of Green Valley, formerly of Iron Mountain, passed on March 30, 2008, in Tucson, Ariz.

He was born Dec. 8, 1914, in Iron Mountain, son of the late Henry and Mary (Flanagan) Newkirk. John graduated from Norway High School in 1933 and from Marquette University in Milwaukee with a degree in medicine. John served in the U.S. Army during World War II from Oct. 30, 1942 to March 29, 1946, and was stationed in Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines. After four years overseas, he was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

He began his practice in Elgin, Ill., after a year of residency in Chicago and Columbia Hospital. He practiced in Elgin from 1947 through 1966. During that time, John served on the medical staff of Sherman and St. Joseph's hospitals, and he became very active in the Illinois Medical Political Action Committee.

In 1966, he decided to move his practice to Iron Mountain. The medical community was in need of an internist and he accepted the position. This was a chance to move back to his boyhood community and give something back. Dr. John loved the outdoors and was enthusiastic in everything he did, especially his practice of medicine, and what better place to do that than in "God's Country." After leaving Iron Mountain, Dr. John practiced in Green Valley and Tubac, Ariz. before retiring in Green Valley.

Dr. John's many active pursuits included a very active membership in Rotary International, the American Legion, the Elks Lodge, the Menominee Range Historical Society, the AMA, and term president for Dickinson County Hospital. He was responsible for the first cardiac care unit in the tri-county area.

In his leisure time, he dearly loved his yearly trips to Mazatlan, Mexico and enjoyed them for 19 years. He was an avid reader and quotes from the great masters were his forte. He loved fishing, swimming, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, biking and telling limericks. Dr. John was an artist and had a passion for the fine arts.

He lived a long and fulfilling life. Two of his most notable expressions were, "This will only take a minute," and "Anything worth doing, is worth doing well."

He is survived by his wife, Linda; daughter, Catherine (Peter) Corcoran; son, John Jr. (Jane Khoury); two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and dog, Joey.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Jeanne Cudlip and two brothers.

Memorial services will be held at a later date and the times will be announced by the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain.

Condolences to the family of Dr. John A. Newkirk may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.

Tribute Wall

V.

“ *Our sincere and heartfelt condolences to Dr. John Nwekirk's family. Dr. Newkirk is fondly remembered by his patients in Iron Mountain area long after he left here in 1981. Linda you and the family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Sincerely,
Dave&shashi Mahadev*

V.Mahadev - April 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Dear John and Linda, My sister Jane called with the sad news of John's passing. Many years have passed, but it seems like yesterday when we were neighbors at the lake. Indeed, I still often refer to the "Newkirk" side of our property in conversation. As the summer sun sets on the "pig pen", I can still see John working the cocktail party crowd in his trademark bright orange sport jacket. But, my fondest memory is the respect and kindness he showed us Kauper kids when we were growing up. Jan and I are thinking of you.....*

Daniel Kauper - April 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Dear John Jr., Kathy, and Linda - my wife Patty and I will forever remember the great day we shared with John and Linda in recent years at their very artistic and authentic southwest pad in Green Valley, AZ. It was one of those really special unplanned visits. We had a great time remembering all the meaningful moments of our long time family friendship, of course capped off with a couple of very hearty gin and tonics and a passionate tour of family treasures displayed throughout the house. John was spry and full of life sporting his signature laugh - the way we will always remember it resonating across the bay at Spread Eagle. We're so glad we have the memory of that day. It was like John, one-of-a-kind. God Bless - Bill & Patty Kauper

Bill Kauper - April 14, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ My heartfelt sympathy is extended to you all on Dr. Newkirk's passing. I only met him once, while working on the Dickinson County Centennial book in about 1990, and remember his gracious assistance in allowing me to copy some invaluable photographs from Vulcan and Sagola for inclusion in the book. He called me and invited me to see him in Spread Eagle. I also worked at the Menominee Range Museum as manager from the mid-1970's to the late 1980's, and know how interested and dedicated he had been in seeing our heritage preserved. His foresight made an indelible mark in telling our area's history. Obviously, his life touched many people in many ways. May your own fond memories help console you as you mourn your loss.

Bill Cummings - April 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ I was sorry to hear of John's passing. It is truly the end of a "Spread Eagle" era. I have so many fond memories of living next door to the Newkirk family. John and Kathy....please accept my condolences. Linda....I'm thinking of you and remembering the fun times with you and HR. Jane Kauper Juchemich

Jane Kauper Juchemich - April 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Dear John, Jane and family, We were sorry to hear of your dad's passing. It's so hard to lose a parent. We will be praying for your heart to heal. Gary and I think of you and Jane often . God Bless. Gary and Melinda Howell..Conway,Arkansas

gary and melinda howell - April 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with one of the best friends I have ever had.
John, God be with you till we meet again.
To John's family, I hope that you will accept my most sincere sympathy and condolence.
Bob

Dr. Robert Calderwood - April 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Dear Linda, I am so sorry to hear about John...May God be with you at this time of need.I've thought of you often, I hope in time your pain will heal. Maureen Pasten.

Maureen Julian Pasten - April 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM