



Dr. H. Esbenschade,

March 25, 2014

John H. Esbenschade, Jr. died in Naples, Florida on Sunday, March 16, 2014. John was born in Lancaster in 1930, the son of the late Dr. J. Howard and Martha Volrath Esbenschade. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Elsebeth Lehmann Esbenschade.

John was a well-known Cardiologist at Lancaster General Hospital and was Director of Medical Education at the hospital for over twenty five years. He also maintained a long standing private practice, which he merged with The Heart Group of Lancaster prior to his retirement.

He began his education at the Lawrenceville School, graduated from Franklin & Marshall College and Temple University School of Medicine. He completed his Internship at Temple University Hospital, then served as a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy (R) Medical Corps. His career was distinguished by the following: Fellow, American College of Physicians; Fellow, American College of Cardiology; Senior Registrar and Research Fellow at Guy's Hospital, London, England - and Clinical Professor of Medicine at Temple University. He also held numerous professional positions, membership in a wide variety of Medical Societies, and was the author of many papers, published in medical journals. His community service was marked by Board positions with The Demuth Foundation, Linden Hall School, Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County and the American SHAW Festival at Mt. Gretna.

Another aspect of John was his talent with both piano and organ, and love of theatre. He was a frequent participant in the Fulton Theatre Kiwanis Productions. He appeared as the leading man in the Fulton musicals 'My Fair Lady' and 'On A Clear Day You Can See Forever.' He was an avid world traveler and enjoyed sailing, squash and tennis. And last but not least, he was a proud member of the Slumbering Ground Hog Lodge. His designation as an Eagle Scout surely served him well at the Lodge.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his first wife, Audrey Appel Esbenshade and his brother, J. David Esbenshade. He is survived by a son, John - Lancaster, PA, a daughter, Liz Reeves - Ludlow, MA, a son, Andy, husband of Lisa - Lancaster, PA and a daughter, Maggie, wife of Miguel Espinosa - La Mesa, CA. Three grandchildren: Ziyah Esbenshade, Liz Fluck and Peter Reeves and four great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Memorial service at Groff's Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange St., Lancaster, PA on Saturday, April 12th at 11:00 a.m. with Reverend Dana Schlegel officiating. Friends may call at the funeral home on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Private interment will be held at Longeneckers Reformed Mennonite Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

If desired, contributions may be made in John Esbenshade's memory to: Demuth Foundation, 120 E. King Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 or Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida, 1048 Goodlette-Frank Road, Naples, FL 34102.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. H. Esbenshade,*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *John was a talented physician, a great colleague, a kind man and always a good friend. I enjoyed his company and had the honor of being one of his physicians in his later years. I will miss his smile and warmth.*

Neil Clark - April 08, 2014 at 09:36 PM



“ *Condolences to John's family. He was a gentleman, an astute clinician, and a pleasure to be with. We worked closely in the mid80s along with Nik Zervanos in choosing candidates for the Flexible Intern program at LGH. I was always amazed at his ability to look at transcripts, recommendations and interviews and rank a candidate quite precisely and accurately!*

Gerald Rothacker M.D. - April 03, 2014 at 01:32 PM



“ *I met John through his wife Elsebeth while we were flight attendants with Pan Am and Delta Airlines. He was a genuine nice, kind and dear man. I can only imagine what a caring Doctor he must have been. My prayers are with his family at this trying time and I will miss him.*

June Smith - April 03, 2014 at 10:54 AM

NM

“ It was John Esbenshade who asked me to come to Lancaster to start the Family Practice Residency Program in July 1969. We worked together together to advance graduate medical education at Lancaster General and to establish an affiliation agreement with his alma mater, Temple University, School of Medicine to develop a highly prized clinical clerkship for their third and fourth year students. He left an indelible mark on the Lancaster medical community. It was a pleasure to have been associated with this wonderful physician and esteemed colleague. We extend our sincerest sympathies to his children and wife Elsebeth. May his memory be eternal.

Nik and Diana Zervanos

Nikitas J. Zervanos, MD - March 30, 2014 at 03:44 PM

AM

“ We started as classmates @ Temple Medical School in 1951. You chose your father's specialty while I drifted in the "trenches" in Lititz. I followed your distinguished career in cardiology with achievements that would have made your father proud. Rest in peace, John. You will be missed.

Art Holder M.D. - March 27, 2014 at 11:36 AM

PP

“ I'm very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Esbenshade. I had the pleasure of meeting him several times as my Mother; Doris Perrine, RN at LGH Operating Room Supervisor had worked with him for many years. My Mother prior to her passing in 2008 remembered him fondly. Best wishes to your family in this time of sorrow.

Peter Perrine - March 27, 2014 at 10:48 AM