



G. Yale Eastman

September 27, 2017

G. Yale Eastman died on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at The Glen at Willow Valley at the age of 89 years. He was born in Summit, NJ, the son of Gardner Pettee and Marjorie Parks Bell Eastman. His parents, his sister, Mabry Eastman Gray and his daughter-in-law, Constance Schroder predeceased him. He was a graduate of the Clark School in NH and Amherst College in MA, BA Mathematics. His first job after college was with RCA in Harrison, NJ.

He and Jane Nickum were married in Fairfield, CT in 1954 and moved in the same year to Lancaster with RCA. In Lancaster, he was involved in setting up the first color picture tube factory. During his twenty-five years at RCA, he worked on many different technologies including color picture tubes, thermionic energy converters, lasers and heat pipes. He wrote the cover story on heat pipe technology for Scientific American in May, 1968. Heat pipes were an incidental product for RCA, but he thought the technology could form the basis of an independent company; that was the genesis of Thermacore, Inc. which was incorporated in 1970. Yale's technical expertise led to twenty-one patents and worldwide recognition in the heat pipe field. Thermacore was sold in 2001, then a company with several hundred employees and operations in five countries.

Yale had a lifelong interest in radio and earned his ham radio license (K3VPA)

in retirement in conjunction with starting StarH, an antenna company that developed compact antennae for high-end communications. The company is now headquartered in State College, PA.

He had wide-ranging interests and hobbies including photography, travel, genealogy, fossil collecting (collection now at Conestoga Valley High School), reading, music and anything “new”. He enjoyed giving talks to informal groups on various subjects. The Eastman Family Partnership was formed to offer management advice and funding assistance to entrepreneurs starting technology-based companies.

Yale’s immediate family includes his son Peter (Heather Smith) of Rose Valley, PA and grandsons Thomas Eastman (m. Jennifer Cowhy) and Lucas Eastman (m. Macarena Valencia) and son Roger (m. Debra Wright) Eastman of Collegetown, PA and granddaughters Aubrey (m. Josias) Figueirido, Janelle (m. Zachary) Taylor and Lara Eastman and ten nieces and nephews.

Yale had a longstanding commitment to building technology businesses in PA and was a founding member of the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania in the early 1980s, an early member of the Pennsylvania Innovation Network and supportive of the nascent JSID, an active member of the Lancaster Angels and volunteer at SCORE. He was part of the group that encouraged the development of the Lancaster Science Factory. His work on the Community Advisory Council at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology enhanced his respect for the role of Stevens in the Lancaster community. He was surprised and pleased when the college awarded him an honorary doctorate. In addition to community and professional group memberships, he enjoyed his fifty-plus years at the Hamilton Club and time at the Lancaster Country Club.

Interment will be private and at the convenience of the family in Conestoga

Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations in Yale's memory may be sent to the Lancaster Science Factory, The Lancaster Conservancy, or charity of your choice.

If you'd like to share a memory on Yale's memorial page, please be sure to include your email address so the family can reply to you directly.

Thank you. *****

Tribute Wall



“ *G. Yale Eastman*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Our sincere sympathy to the family of Mr. Eastman. He volunteered his time as a business mentor at SCORE Lancaster-Lebanon and his positive impact on the small business community will be remembered always.*
SCORE Lancaster-Lebanon

SCORE Lancaster-Lebanon - November 03, 2017 at 12:59 PM



“ *My sympathies to Yale's family and all of his many friends. I worked at Thermacore under Yale's leadership. Yale was a kind, patient, down to earth and brilliant man. He treated everyone with kindness and respect whether it was sharing daffodils for our desks hand picked from his garden, sharing slides of his travels all around the world, or telling stories, both work related and personal. He truly cared about all of his employees and because of that provided us all with opportunity and a great place to work. God bless you Yale.*

Cindy Hall-Baker - October 03, 2017 at 02:49 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to Yale's family. I worked at Thermacore for a few years, and he was the kindest, most unassuming, and probably the most intelligent employer that I ever had.*
Elinor Sinclair

Elinor Sinclair - October 02, 2017 at 11:33 PM

LD

“ Sympathies to the family and friends of Mr. Eastman. He was a kind and gentle presence in our neighborhood.

Lisa Heisterkamp Davis

Lisa Davis - October 02, 2017 at 07:48 AM

CC

“ I saw Yale do a presentation on employee ownership 20 years ago and it changed the course of our company at Cargas Systems. Within a year of that inspiring day we had employee ownership at Cargas and it has been so important in sustaining our culture and growing our company. Yale lives on through all of us who were lucky enough to receive his caring wisdom.

Chip Cargas

Chip Cargas - October 01, 2017 at 09:42 AM

LF

“ I remember when I interviewed with Yale. I was a nervous 19-year-old with a five foot stature looking up to what I thought was nine feet! He hired me at Thermacore, and the rest is full of stories and history! He should share his travel experiences with us, and if we had a conversation that turned into a teachable moment, he would manage to fold himself against the wall or the desk, sitting on the floor, (still appearing taller than me)and sharing his knowledge. I am grateful to have worked with Yale, and I am grateful for all the times that he encouraged me to keep "learning". I will always remember him.

Lillie Reeves Farmer

Lillie Farmer - September 29, 2017 at 11:13 AM



“ *I worked for Thermacore before it was sold and Yale was always so happy and made you feel like you were part of his family. He will be greatly missed!*



Diana Knouff - September 29, 2017 at 10:20 AM



“ *Yale was my mentor at Thermacore, he aspired me to be the person I am today. His gentle spirit will always be remembered. God Bless you Yale.*
Jim Sanzi

Jim Sanzi - September 29, 2017 at 08:36 AM