



Dr. Henry W. Huffnagle

October 7, 2016

On October 7, 2016, Dr. Henry William Huffnagle died peacefully following a brief illness, surrounded by friends and loved ones. He was 83 years old.

Dr. Huffnagle was a skilled and widely respected Lancaster physician, self-taught naturalist and botanist, community leader, and passionate advocate for land conservation and preservation issues in Lancaster County.

He served on the board of many local organizations including the North Museum, Lancaster County Community Foundation, the Pennsylvania Academy of Music, Homestead Village, Lancaster Country Day School, and the Hamilton Club. Most recently, as Board Chair of the Lancaster County Conservancy, Dr. Huffnagle advocated environmental education for young people and spent years shepherding the institution's growth toward that goal.

Dr. Huffnagle was an avid outdoorsman and was a member of Maskenoza Rod and Gun Club in Bushkill Falls, PA. He travelled in the US and abroad, often with many friends, to hunt, fish and hike. He completed the Appalachian Trail, the Long Trail, and Wainwright's Coast-to-Coast Trail in northern England. As much as Dr. Huffnagle enjoyed traveling, he took great pride in the beauty of his own, beautifully landscaped backyard.

He was a rugged individualist, and loved the works of great Transcendental

writers who drew their inspiration from nature: Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Bartram, Robert Frost, and Kahlil Gibran. He appreciated music of every sort—but had a particular affinity for Johnny Cash, Ray Charles and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

Dr. Huffnagle was a man of deep ethical conviction, which carried through his professional and personal lives. This conviction earned the deep respect of colleagues who referred to him as an “iconoclast” and “Giant Slayer.” At work and in the community, he was always willing to stand up to authority when he believed it was necessary. At home, he always advocated for being true to one’s character, citing Polonius’s guidance to Laertes from Shakespeare’s Hamlet: “This above all: to thine own self be true.” His sometimes edgy and curmudgeonly exterior belied his compassion, generosity, and love.

He also deeply loved his family who is left with unparalleled gratitude for his teaching and guidance. His legacy of generosity and convictions continues with his children, grandchildren and the many people whose lives he touched.

Dr. Huffnagle was born on September 24, 1933 in Quarryville, PA. He attended the Peddie School in Heightstown, NJ. He graduated from Franklin & Marshall College, and then completed his Doctor of Medicine degree and residency at University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Huffnagle is survived by his wife of 49 years, Mary Lou; daughter, Heather Huffnagle Hubbard; son, Henry W. Huffnagle; and three grandchildren, Evelyn, Elizabeth and Isabel.

Relatives and friends are invited to Dr. Huffnagle’s Memorial Service on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 517 N. Queen Street, (corner of Queen and James Sts.) Lancaster, PA with Reverend Stephen P. Verkouw officiating. The family will greet friends following the

service. Private interment in Quarryville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Memorials in Dr. Huffnagle's name may be made to the Lancaster County Conservancy, 117 S. West End Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Previous Events

Service

OCT **12**. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Grace Lutheran Church
517 N. Queen Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Henry W. Huffnagle*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *We have a litany of happy, fond, and hysterical memories of Henry during our hikes together that we recall on a regular basis, so his loss from this world is immense. Only Henry would: 1. carry a full roll of duct tape in his backpack; 2. carry a celebratory bottle of Dom Perignon on the last two days of hiking the Appalachian Trail; 3. pack a catheter and suture kit for emergency trailside use - just in case; 4. have unparalleled passion for the Manhattans that we toted by Doug in the 100 Mile Wilderness section of the AT. Only Henry would be completely baffled about how to get cream out of a thermal carafe for his coffee or how to dispense ice cream from a machine - with or without his glasses on. Only Henry could bring such joy to any experience, matched by his vast capacity for compassion, care, and sincerity. His light still shines in some valley somewhere, and I know he's calling someone somewhere a "first class ass."*

Doug and Julie (Leshner) Smith, Wilmington, DE

Julie and Doug Smith - November 29, 2016 at 06:47 PM

JJ

“ Dear Mary Lou,

I'm so sorry to have learned of the death of Henry. We had so many good times down at the farm with his hunting parties and the delicious "game" dinners. He was always happy and had so many wonderful stories of his hiking and hunting trips. He was a special person and will be missed by many friends in Lancaster. Please accept our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

Jack and Carole Miller

John w. miller, jr - November 08, 2016 at 03:03 PM

AH

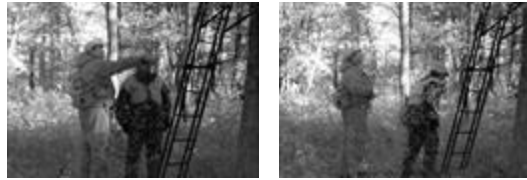
“ Dear Mary Lou,

I was very sad to learn of Henry's passing last night. He will be missed by the entire Maskenozha Family, he was a special man to all of us. I look back on the last time Henry and I had the chance to hunt together, we took my gator out and on our way to the hunting blind he said "Andy this thing is like a cadillac in the woods I can ride around on this all day"..... we got to the blind that I had for him and he sat down in it. I proceeded to go to another stand and within the hour here comes Henry walking up to me "I'm sitting with you that damn bear won't let me alone" we sat and laughed all morning over that. We ended up getting two deer almost at the same time that day while we were deep in conversation about conservation. I will truly miss Henry and his wisdom he was a gem.

Andy Himmelwright

President

Maskenozha Rod and Gun Club



Andy Himmelwright - October 23, 2016 at 08:08 PM

RL

“ Dear Mary Lou, Huffy and Heather, I wanted to let you know how deeply sadden I am over the loss of your husband and father. He was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. He was also one of the brightest and most caring individuals that I have had the pleasure of knowing. I will never forget our field trip to Refreshing Mountain and all the hikes we took around the county. He will be deeply missed by not only his family and friends, but also by anyone who loves Lancaster and its environment. Mary Lou, I will never forget the time you called his office and had the secretary cancel all of his appointments so he could go to the County Padk for LCDS's first environmental day at the park.
Randy Leonard

Randy Leonard - October 20, 2016 at 09:46 AM



“ Dear Friends,
I did not know Henry well, but you did not need to know him well to know that he was a gentleman. Later, as his patient, when he helped me face a medical concern, I learned that he was also a gentle and compassionate man. I admired him very much and the world is a lesser place without him.
With kind regards,
James M. Reeder

James Reeder - October 12, 2016 at 09:18 PM

PW

“ Dear Mary Lou and family, Judy and I are saddened to hear of Henry's passing. Our prayers are with you all. We enjoyed his company on the Galapagos Islands trip. Henry looked after me one day, and Fritz and I looked after Henry on another. We enjoyed that trip, one that he anticipated for many years. With condolences, Paul and Judy Ware

Paul Ware - October 12, 2016 at 02:13 PM



Beth
Charles

“ *Hats off to the man who loved the woods on Sunnyside Drive as much as we do ! What a great legacy from a neighbor, hunter and outdoorsman ! With much respect, Beth and Ben Charles*

Beth Charles - October 12, 2016 at 12:05 PM

KN

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the Huffnagle family through this heartbreaking time. There's nothing I can say that will ease your pain but I just wanted you to know I am thinking of you and will always be here for you. My deepest condolences.*

with love and peace,

Kathy Neill

Kathy Neill - October 12, 2016 at 11:30 AM

TL

“ *I worked for Dr. Huffnagle many, many years ago and I have never forgotten him. He had a huge heart hidden under his "curmudgeonly" exterior and any compliment, or kindness he ever paid me is still a treasure.*

Tracy Logue - October 11, 2016 at 07:10 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Greg Leshner - October 10, 2016 at 09:06 PM

CG

“ We were so sorry to hear of Henry's death! We have been fans of his for many years,
He was a gift to the community, and did so much to keep the natural beauty and the beautiful farms of Lancaster County!
Our best to Mary Lou and Heather, and all extended family! Henry was a wonderful man, be thankful for the long and very productive life he lived! Our prayer are with you!
Carol and Paul Grosh

Carol Grosh - October 10, 2016 at 05:08 PM

HW

“ I remember Henry as an excellent urological surgeon who delivered good and compassionate urological care. He was a friend with humor and love of the outdoors. Sympathy to the family and may they have many friendly and loving memories of their many activities together. Henry S. Wentz, M.D.

Henry Wentz - October 10, 2016 at 09:51 AM

DE

“ Dear Mary Lou,

I think of our Newton Road neighborhood many times, and no one comes to mind more than your Henry. He was the dependable walker we all admired, often giving a brief wave, sometimes stopping to chat when time permitted. First met Henry and you years ago and felt honored to enjoy the cabin and beautiful woodlands of southern Lancaster County. He was really a most wonderful person and our lives are all so enriched for having known him.

Deepest sympathy to you, Heather and Henry. Will keep you close in our thoughts and prayers.

*Debbie Benson Everett
Oak Bluffs, MA*

Deborah B. Everett - October 10, 2016 at 06:53 AM

MD

“ *Loved Dr. Huffnagle. He was an extraordinary physician and nursing advocate. I had the privilege of working with him for many years. I was so happy to see him recently and we shared many stories. He had the biggest heart. It was an honor to know him. He will be sorely missed. My condolences to the family.*

Missy Droege Deascenti

Melissa Deascenti - October 09, 2016 at 07:24 PM

SA

“ I have known this man since I was 2 yrs. old and we lived on his father's farm which a few yrs later became Henry's farm...He was like a big brother to me. He help me through some very tough times when my father, Glenn Fellenbaum, died 23 yrs ago. As his obituary stated he was a warm and gentle man!!! My condolences yo Mary Lou, Heather and Huffy as I know them. God be with you all. He will be missed!!!

Sharon Fellenbaum Harnish Altman - October 09, 2016 at 05:17 PM

JW

“ I am so saddened to learn of Dr Huffnagle's passing. I was fortunate to work for him during a very difficult time in my life. He was a caring & fair employer, who I came to regard as a friend. I was delighted to see him recently , and we shared some laughs & memories from all those years ago. Lancaster County has lost a truely incredible person, and he will be missed. My condolences to Mary Lou, Heather, & Huffy.

Jeannette Dicely Weitzel

Jeannette Dicely Weitzel - October 09, 2016 at 04:12 PM

CL

“ He will be forever missed and forever remembered.

Cindy and Victoria

Cindy Liu - October 09, 2016 at 02:27 PM

ML

“ *Heather and Family:*

So sorry for your loss of an obviously wonderful man who touched so many people. He will definitely live on in all of you.

Martha Leshine

Martha Leshine - October 09, 2016 at 01:40 PM

PS

“ *Thank you for the many years as a great neighbor.*

Paul Sheaffer

Paul Sheaffer - October 09, 2016 at 01:13 PM

TK

“ *I am ver saddened at the loss of Henry, one of our community's most sincere and caring individuals. My heart and prayers go out to his family during this time. May the memories of his goodness sooth your grief.*

Terrie Kreis

Terrie Kreis - October 09, 2016 at 11:50 AM

MD

“ *Mary Lou, Henry and I had gone back so many years. He was a gracious colleague in residency and practice. I offer my sincere condolences. May your grief soon turn to happy memories. Marv Daley*

marvin daley - October 09, 2016 at 11:10 AM

KS

“ *What character, charm, and humor. An extraordinary man. You will be sorely missed by all you touched in the community. Condolences to the Huffnagle family.*

Kim Shorter - October 09, 2016 at 10:56 AM

DO

“ *Loved Dr. Huffnagle, he made me laugh, and he was a great Dr. I'm sure he will be missed. RIP*



Doris Oster - October 09, 2016 at 10:20 AM

ST

“ *There no better advocate for the nursing profession than Dr. Huffnagle His gruff exterior could not hide his huge heart. It was an honor to know him.*

Sheila Thomas - October 09, 2016 at 09:47 AM