



Leon O. Andersen, MD

February 14, 2018

Leon O. Andersen, MD, 91, of Lititz passed away surrounded by family at his home on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Born in Oslo, Norway, he was the son of the late Fridtjof and Birgit Bendiksen Andersen. Leon was married to Edith Knudsen Andersen on July 5, 1956, celebrating sixty-one years of marriage this past July.

Leon arrived in New York at Ellis Island after escaping from Nazi occupied Bergen, Norway on the mercy ship American Legion at the age of 13. He graduated from Ft. Hamilton High School in Brooklyn, NY, Harvard College and Columbia College of Physician & Surgeons receiving his medical doctor degree. He did his post medical training at Bellevue Hospital. He served as a medical doctor and Captain in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Chateauroux, France from 1959-1962.

He worked for 30 years as a cardiologist at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern, NY where he founded and directed the coronary care unit. Upon retirement and moving to Lancaster, he devoted his time to the Lancaster Heart and Stroke Foundation. He initiated an innovative defibrillator program that placed these life saving devices in every Lancaster county police car. These devices have saved more the 100 lives in the past 20 years. For his volunteer work, he received awards from the Police Chiefs of Lancaster, the American Heart Association and Lancaster Rotary distinguished service

award.

He enjoyed skiing, golfing, history, traveling and was fluent in many languages.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons: Rolf L. (Kimberly) Andersen, MD and William K. (Ofelia) Andersen, MD, both of Lititz, PA, five grandchildren: Sarah, Lars, Liam, Kristen, and Karl Andersen.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to Leon's Celebration of Life Funeral Service at The Groffs Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc, 528 W. Orange Street (corner of W. Orange & Pine Sts.) Lancaster, PA on Saturday, February 17, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. The family will receive friends from 9:30a.m. until the time of service. Private family interment in Machpelah Cemetery in Lititz.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Leon's memory may be made to Doctors Without Borders, 40 Rector Street, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10006.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 17. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Celebration of Life

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Tribute Wall



“ *The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Leon O. Andersen, MD*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - February 16, 2018 at 05:13 PM



“ *Leon O. Andersen, MD*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *130 files added to the album LifeTributes*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - February 16, 2018 at 04:02 PM

AB

“ Dear Ede and family,
We were so very sorry to hear of Leon’s passing. He was a brilliant man who accomplished so much in his lifetime, not only for himself but for others. His love for you Ede and his family was always so apparent as well as his desire to help those who were less fortunate. We are thankful for the years of friendship we shared. Leon’s kindness and generosity to us will always be remembered. Our deepest sympathy and may God bless you all during this difficult time.
Love, Bill and Alice

alice bowie - February 16, 2018 at 09:34 AM

DH

“ So sorry to hear of Dr. Andersen’s passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time. He was my grandmother’s doctor here in Rockland County NY until her death in 1986. I will always his kindness, his stories and his jokes. Without his gentle caring bedside manner I would not have had my grandmother for as long as I did. I will never forget him. Dianne Herring

dianne herring - February 16, 2018 at 08:56 AM

LL

“ Aunt Ede and all,
U. Leon - Soaring to great heights in life and afterward...he never stopped moving forward and never will!

Lisa L.

Lisa Leopold - February 15, 2018 at 08:53 PM

GL

“ *Bill, Ofelia, Karl, Kristen, Edith and the rest of your family,*

Maria and I received the sad news of Leon passing away and we wanted to send you our deepest and sincere condolences and may God give all of you strength to overcome this immense loss. We enjoyed spending a little time with him and he will always be remembered not only for his professional accomplishments but for having raised a wonderful family and for being a dedicated husband to Edith for 61 years. He was extremely knowledgeable not only about medicine , a [HARVARD GRADUATE] and being very proud of that but you could have spoken to him about anything. He is in Heaven now and may he rest in peace.

Giuseppe and Maria

giuseppe lancellotti - February 15, 2018 at 11:46 AM

SG

“ *John and I are out of town but wanted to share our condolences with the family. What a pleasure it was to have known Leon and even more so to watch the loving care provided to him and Edie these past years. No matter the age or the circumstances losing a Father and Grandfather is always hard.*

Blessings to you all and love to Edie.

Susan Garofola - February 15, 2018 at 09:15 AM