



Dr. Robert R. Johnson

May 12, 1924 - May 27, 2013

Johnson, Robert R. MD

CLAVERACK—Robert R. Johnson, MD, 89, of Claverack, passed away on Monday, May 27, 2013.

Robert was born to Edwin C. and Lillian M. (Soellner) Johnson in 1924 in Newcomb, New York the eldest of three children. The son of the town doctor, he graduated from Newcomb Central School one of five in his class, and entered a combined undergraduate/medical school program at Cornell University designed to recruit and accelerate the training of doctors during World War II. He met his wife of Nancy Johnson (Bousfield) when he was hospitalized with the mumps during medical school training in New York City. After receiving his MD in surgery in 1949 he was sent to England where he practiced medicine for the Air Force until the early 1950s. On his return to the States he received his board certification in thoracic surgery.

Together Robert and Nancy raised four children living in England, New York City, and Fort Wayne, Indiana before finally setting in Columbia County where he took a position with the Rip Van Winkle Clinic in 1958. They built a home in Claverack and after the clinic closed in 1964 he continued to practice surgery in Hudson at Columbia Memorial Hospital until his retirement in 1986. He was a member of the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack, where he served on the consistory. He was interested in astronomy, and served as a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts for a time. In his youth he collected stamps and he rekindled that interest after his retirement, but his passion and love for the Adirondacks exceeded all other interests. With his wife Nancy, Robert climbed many of the Adirondack high peaks. They maintained a seasonal residence in Newcomb, New York, and introduced their children to the beauty of nature and the splendor of the high peaks region where Robert was born and raised.

Robert was predeceased in 2009 by his wife Nancy to whom he was married for 63 years. He is survived by their children: Kathryn Schneider and her husband William of

Stuyvesant, Deborah Langford and her husband William of Qinhuangdao, China, Jeffrey Johnson and his wife Alissa Ferlito of North Greenbush, Thomas Johnson and his wife Mary-Beth of Albany; by his sisters Lois Hamerman of Philadelphia and Patricia Carlow of Toronto, Ontario; as well as seven grandchildren: Timothy and Rachel Schneider, Daniel and Stephen Langford, and Peter, Michael and Christa Johnson and two great grandchildren.

At his request services will be private. Friends and relatives are invited to leave condolences for the family at www.batesanderson.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the Adirondack Mountain Club, Development Department, 814 Goggins Road, Lake George, NY 12845.

Tribute Wall

NK

“ *Kathy and family*

So sorry to hear of your father's passing. He was a no nonsense excellent surgeon who loved his patients. He was the one who finally got the correct diagnosis for my uncle and gave him another 39 years of life. Forever grateful for his presence in our community-

Nancy Kern



Nancy Kern - June 06, 2013 at 02:20 PM

ND

“ *Kathy and all*

Sorry to hear about your Dad. Kathy I remember when I hurt my knee skiing; went to your Dad to fix me up; told me I had to stay home with my leg up for a few days but I had your Birthday Party to go to..Mom brought me to your house your Dad carried me in from the car and brought me home. I think some of our friends thought he was a little gruff but not me. I could always talk to him.

Nina Barnard Dolan - June 03, 2013 at 11:46 AM

CM

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. I have good memories of visiting the Johnson home as a child. May God comfort you at this difficult time. Sincerely, Cathie-Rose and Brian Michaud*

Cathie-Rose Michaud - June 01, 2013 at 08:55 PM

PS

“ *Thinking of you at this time of sorrow. Paul and Dianne Slusar*

Paul Slusar - June 01, 2013 at 07:36 AM

PM

“ *To all the family of Dr Johnson,
My sister worked for him for many years and always thought so highly of him, his compassion and work ethics. He operated on my son and he'll always remember doc left him a half dollar taped to his hand so when he woke up he'd find it... what a nice surprise for a 5 year old. With our deepest sympathy,
Sincerely, Bonnie (Yost) Feller and Paula (Yost) Melnick*

Paula Melnick - May 31, 2013 at 06:38 PM

WS

“ I WORKED FOR MANY YEARS IN THE "OLD" ER AT CMH, I HAVE VERY FOND AND WARM MEMORIES OF DR. JOHNSON. AND MRS. JOHNSON AS WELL,A GENTLE GIANT, BUT WELL RESPECTED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM, I SHALL MISS HIM, BUT KNOW HE AND YOUR MOM ARE TOGETHER, IN HEAVEN...MAY YOUR MEMORIES KEEP YOU IN PEACE AND LOVE..WITH MY DEEPEST RESPECTS AND SYMPATHY TO YOU ALL...WES SNYDER, FORMER ER NURSE-STAFF, NOW RESIDING IN COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND...

WES SNYDER - May 30, 2013 at 10:27 PM

CM

“ I wish you all peace with fond memories of the good family times. Cathie McCallum

Cathie McCallum - May 30, 2013 at 10:14 PM

SM

“ We are deeply saddened to hear of Bob's death. We hold precious and warm memories of our past lives shared with Bob and Nancy. Katy and Stan Bardwell

Stan Bardwell, MD - May 30, 2013 at 02:52 PM