



Dr. John H Coleman

November 26, 2016

Dr. John H. Coleman, a longtime Toledo physician whose service to profession and community inspired his children, died Nov. 26 in his Potomac Falls, Va., home. He was 88.

The cause of death is pending, according to the Virginia chief medical examiner's northern district office in Manassas, Va.

"It's not important how he died, but how he lived," said his son Michael, a former mayor of Columbus. "He lived a full and complete life, a great man in many ways."

Dr. Coleman and his wife, Joan - retired executive director of the Toledo/Lucas County Victim-Witness Assistance Program - moved to Virginia in 2003. Dr. Coleman joined the Sterling, Va., medical practice of his daughter, Linda.

To younger physicians in Toledo, Dr. Coleman was a role model, said Dr. Imran Andrabi, president and chief executive of Mercy Health.

"He was a true physician and gentleman," said Dr. Andrabi, a resident in family medicine under Dr. Coleman who eventually took over his practice.

Dr. Coleman was named 1999 Family Physician of the Year by the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians.

He taught at the former Medical College of Ohio and what is now Mercy Health St. Vincent Medical Center and served on the Lucas County Children Services and Cordelia Martin Health Center boards. He oversaw family practice residency at the former Mercy Hospital. He became the only northwest Ohio delegate to the state Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation.

"His attitude was, 'If there is some way I can help, I will do that,'" said Judge C. Allen McConnell of Toledo Municipal Court, who was a patient and friend. "He contributed mightily to the community."

His son Michael said Dr. Coleman "set an example of serving someone, to better the life of someone else" to his children, including his son Jeffrey, who has worked for Franklin County and state government.

The grandson of a slave, he was born in August, 1928, to Cleo and Ben Coleman and grew up in segregated Madison, Ind. He was valedictorian at age 15 of his Broadway High School graduating class. He was a graduate of Indiana University, from which he received his medical degree in 1953. He was a captain in the Army Medical Corps and served in El Paso.

His son David died in 1977.

Surviving are his wife, Joan, whom he married in August, 1953; sons, Michael and Jeffrey; daughter, Dr. Linda Coleman, and eight grandchildren.

Visitation will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, with services at 11 a.m., in All Saints Episcopal Church, where he was a member. Arrangements are by the Dale-Riggs Funeral Home.

The family suggests tributes to his fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Inc., Ashburn, Va.

Comments



“ Dear Coleman Family,

The Perry Family, of whom Dr. Coleman was the longtime physician of Drs. Robert L. (Bob) and D. LaRouth, wish to extend our very sincere prayers and sympathy to the family. Bob fondly recalls many deep conversations with Dr. Coleman and how often Bob was the recipient of books from Dr. Coleman, who seemed to never tire of his joy of learning. LaRouth just loved Dr. Coleman so dearly! Baye, Kai, and Ravi are equally saddened to learn of Dr. Coleman's passing - his many kindnesses and big smiles from our younger days brings smiles to our faces in this transition. We remember the entire Coleman family with many fond memories. Bob, Baye, and Ravi are so very sad to bid farewell to our fraternity brother as well to Chapter Invisible. Above all, we wish to extend a long tight hug to Mrs. Coleman and to Michael, Jeffrey, and Linda. Their father was a true giving person with a big heart who gave so much of himself for the good of others throughout the Toledo region for decades. The commitment to the community that he and Joan led together has been unmatched. The values they instilled in their children who have each helped communities in their own special ways is a testament to the model of service Dr. Coleman represented. We will miss him so very dearly. Godspeed.

Perry Family - December 10, 2016 at 01:31 AM



“ Dear Joan,
We are sorry for your loss. Our condolences to you and your family.
Keeping you close with our prayers.
Ann & Steven Brown
Pamela Brown-Birmingham

Pamela Brown-Birmingham - December 09, 2016 at 06:16 PM



“ Dear Mrs Coleman,
We are sorry for your loss. Our condolences to you and your family.
Keeping you close with prayer.
Sincerely,
Ann & Steven Brown
Pamela Brown-Birmingham

Pamela Brown-Birmingham - December 09, 2016 at 06:08 PM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. John H Coleman.



December 09, 2016 at 11:23 AM



“ Joan and John have been a great example of a great marriage. Their service to others had been obvious to all. While I worked with Joan in civic services it has been a long time since I have seen them.

Byron Jensen - December 08, 2016 at 05:08 PM



“ DEAR JOAN & FAMILY,
OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU DURING THIS TIME. MY GRANDPARENTS, (HAROLD AND GLADYS GALLOWAY) HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOUR FAMILY AS A PART OF OUR OWN. THERE IS SOLICE IN THE FACT THAT YOU ALL ARE CHERISHED, AND THAT YOU AND JOHN HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LOVED BY SO MANY. WE TOO SHARE IN YOUR SORROW.
SINCERELY,
BERENE & CARMEN SPIVEY
GAYLE (GALLOWAY) RAMEY
JACQUELYN B. RAMEY
KEITH L. RAMEY

BERENE SPIVEY - December 08, 2016 at 11:53 AM



“ The circle of life will certainly stun you at times. I hope you and dad are hitting the greens and keeping scores low. Another magnificent soul lost. Have loved and respected John and Joan for decades. Your legacy and family keep your light shining bright.

Agapé

Jackie Kimble Dixon

Jackie Dixon - December 07, 2016 at 10:18 PM



“ To Mrs. Coleman, Michael, Jeffrey and Linda. Our heartfelt and sincerest condolences are extended to all of you in your loss. Dr. Coleman was and will always be highly respected and remembered as a caring and professional physician. Rest in Heaven Dr. Coleman. You have earned your wings! C. George. Jones and Pamela Green-Jones

Pamela Green-Jones - December 09, 2016 at 08:20 PM



“ Joan,

I am sorry for your loss. My condolences to you and your family. Your husband served others well as you did when you served as our director of the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office Victim Witness Program. We miss you and our prayers are with you.

Sincerely,

Frank Stiles

Lucas County Prosecutor's Office

Frank Stiles - December 07, 2016 at 01:04 PM



“ Deepest Condolences to the Coleman family. I first met Dr. Coleman, his wife Joan and their children many years ago; and baby sat for the children when I was in high school--long ago. He and his family were always kind and thoughtful and 'down to earth'. We were neighbors for a number of years. He was the primary care physician for my mother, grandmother, aunts, sisters and other family members or friends. Mother, grandmother, aunts/uncles lived long extended lives (90 +) due to his conscientious, quality and caring attention. I still have a picture of him helping to paint the exterior of the church with other members who spruced up All Saints' Episcopal Church years ago. He was just a wonderful person, dedicated to his profession, this community and his family. We will certainly miss his presence but will continue to have fond and loving memories of him as he touch lives and left his legacy in many parts of this community. May God bless his wife Joan and their surviving children. Hopefully, they will be comforted in knowing how much he was cared about and appreciated by the Toledo/area community at-large as well as those he provided such high quality of care and services before moving to the Washington, D. C. area. Doris A. Greer - Toledo, OH



Doris A Greer - December 05, 2016 at 08:10 PM



“ Family of Dr. Coleman: so sorry to hear of Dr. Coleman's death. Our first family doctor. All four of us are doing really well. We are stil living according to Dr. Coleman's instructions. They work. We never went back to him for the same problem. He fixed it the first time. (In our 80's). Our sympathy to you all. Sincerely, Louis, Dorothy Randall and family.

Dorothy Randall - December 04, 2016 at 05:56 AM