



John K. Holcomb, MD

July 15, 1932 - March 24, 2016

John K. Holcomb, M.D, 83, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away Thursday, March 24, 2016 at his home.

He was born July 15, 1932 in Cape Girardeau, MO to Orville and Mildred (Kurre) Holcomb.

He was raised in the rural Cape area and was one of a handful of students who attended the SEMO University campus school system from kindergarten, elementary, high school, college and graduating from there in 1956.

He graduated from the University of Missouri School of Medicine in 1960 and returned to Cape to practice family medicine until retirement in 1992. He served as president of the Cape Girardeau Area Medical Society in 1977 and as president of the St. Francis Hospital medical staff from 1980-1981. In 1998 he was given the Distinguished Physician award by the SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence. He received the Citizenship and Community Service award from the Missouri State Medical Association in 1998.

Always active in sports, he was a 4 year letterman in both baseball and basketball while in high school and pitched a not-hit game. He was on the freshman basketball team at SEMO University and spent part of one summer pitching minor league baseball before being called into naval service during

the Korean War. While in service, he was a radar operator on aircraft involved in anti-submarine search. During retirement years, he was active in tennis and golf and has made one hole-in-one. He was an avid supporter of SEMO University athletics serving as one of the team physicians for 30 years and serving on the SEMO Booster board of directors since 1974 and as board of directors president in 1993.

His community service has been with The United Way (president in 1999), Lions Club (president, 1989-1990), Nell Holcomb School Foundation (past president), SEMO U. Copper Dome Society, Cape Special Road District (1992-2004), St. Francis Hospital Foundation board of directors (1999-2005), Public Water District # 5 board of directors, and the Cape River Heritage Museum board of directors (2003-present and as president currently). He and his wife have established 4 scholarships at SEMO U. for those wanting to become elementary school teachers, pre-med students, those wanting to go into family medicine and a baseball scholarship. Most recently on the SEMO campus the Holcomb Success Center has been established. He was a member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church and had served as an elder and on the board of directors.

He enjoyed collecting antique medical memorabilia and was in the process of working with SEMO U. to establish a repository for the memorabilia and other Cape County medical artifacts at the new Regional History Museum. He also collected antique autos and still has the first car he owned, a 1927 Model T Ford, that he purchased while in high school in 1949. He had a passion for woodworking and created various pieces of furniture for family and friends.

He married Judith Ann Hanschen of Flat River, Missouri in 1959. They have three children; Lisa Cameron (Kit), Douglas Holcomb (Jeri) and David Holcomb.

Survivors include his wife; three children; six grandchildren, Joshua and Amber Holcomb, Katelyn and Clayton Holcomb, Chase Silvers and Amanda Cameron; two great grandchildren, Weston and Hazel Holcomb; sister, Marianna Kipp (John); two nephews, Johnny Kipp and Peter Kipp; niece, Jennifer Hamadi.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28, 2016 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will be at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at the church with Pastor John Dehne officiating.

Private burial will take place at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Cape River Heritage Museum or St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **28.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
804 N. Cape Rock Dr.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Service

MAR **29.** 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
804 N. Cape Rock Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

RW

“ Hello Judy:
My name is Ralph V Wimp . I first met Johnny when my family moved to Cape in 1944 Johnny made me feel at home there and showed me the ropes. at the lab school. At that time we both played the trombone in the junior high band. Later we went to SEMO I was the one that talked Johnny into joining the Naval Reserves. Guess what, we were both called to active duty out of college. When we got out of the USN, we both went back to SEMO. We had Embryology together under Dr Homer Bolen. I became a D.O. and Johnny became an M.D. But it was under the suggestion of Dr Bolen that I decided to be a D.O Through out fhe years we kept in touch. I got a note about the class reunion today and saw the information about Johnny Several months ago, I got a note about the August CHS reunion. Johnny had written "Ralph, hope to see you at the reunion" I was sorry to learn about Johnny's death He was a great guy.
Ralph CLASS OF 1950 CHS

Ralph V Wimp - June 23, 2016 at 07:53 PM

DV

“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Holcomb. He was a great doctor and family friend. I will never forget traveling with him and Judy to the Holy Land many decades ago. My condolences to the family

David Vogel
Morrison, Colorado

David Vogel - April 08, 2016 at 08:14 AM

JB

“ *What a wonderful man John was, a great father and friend. He will be missed! Our prayers go out to the Holcomb family and especially to Judy.*

Jo Beck and family

Jo Beck - March 28, 2016 at 08:58 PM

GL

“ *We were saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Holcomb. He was a true fan of U-High basketball when we were in Cape Girardeau. Our thoughts and prayers to your family. Gerry and Jan Leischner*

Gerry Leischner - March 28, 2016 at 04:32 PM

MW

“ *To Mrs. Holcomb, I am so very sorry for the loss of your amazing husband. As his study coordinator at Siteman, I looked forward to seeing Mr. Holcomb every other Wednesday. He brightened my day and enriched the last year of my life. I am very sad that he is no longer with us, and I'm sure it's very hard for you, your children, and the thousands of people he blessed throughout his life. I admired you two, for your marriage, your kindness and your thoughtfulness. I only have a year of memories with him, but I will treasure them forever. I will never forget the fresh blackberries he brought me, the bottle of wine after my wedding, and the heartwarming cards you both gave me. But the best memories were our visits. We shared stories, talked about travel, skiing, sports, and anything else that came to mind. I will miss seeing that warm smile and hearing, "there she is" at every visit. He was the best. I know all of you know that. Hold onto your many memories, take care of each other, and rest assured he is, and always will be, your guardian angel. I will continue to pray for your whole family. Don't hesitate to call me for anything. My Best, Maria Westfall*

Maria Westfall - March 28, 2016 at 02:45 PM

RG

“Chase, Angie and I were heartsick to hear of your grandfather passing. We are sure he is now with our Lord and the Angels. Follow in his footsteps and you and Brianna are guaranteed a wonderful life.

May you and your family have "The Peace That Passes All Understanding" as you face the next few weeks.

You are all in our prayers.

PawPaw Man and Angie

Ron & Angie Gray - March 28, 2016 at 01:31 PM



“Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John K. Holcomb, MD.



March 28, 2016 at 01:29 AM

MC

“So very sorry for this loss. Dr. Holcomb was a wonderful man & will be missed by many. My deepest sympathies and prayers for the family!

Melanie Coy - March 27, 2016 at 06:38 PM

MS

“ Dr. Holcomb was my doctor for over 20 years. My children's doctor when they came along. I remember him laughing at me when he told me I was pregnant with my daughter. My son was 10. He knew we lived not far from him, and we'd talk about Nell Holcomb school and what else was going on. And I am not ashamed to admit to a few tears when he retired. Been to a lot of doctors since, no one compared to him. Rest in peace Dr. Holcomb, you'll be missed.

Marla Sample - March 27, 2016 at 12:22 PM

DJ

“ Man I miss him. :(He was my first Doctor and all the rest since get compared to him, as he was the greatest. :D I wish his family all the best. :)

Dana Johnston - March 27, 2016 at 12:12 PM

DM

“ Dr. Holcomb was not just our doctor, but he made us feel like friends. Of course, Wayne did play a lot of tennis and shared the court with him a few times.

Dr. Holcomb was such a fine person. He certainly made his life count. I know there is a special place in heaven for him. May he RIP.

Thoughts and prayers for all the family!

Sincerely, Dee and Wayne Maupin

Dee and Wayne Maupin - March 26, 2016 at 10:57 PM