



Franklin John Fishburn

November 18, 1921 - July 18, 2012

Dr. Franklin John Fishburn, 90, of Muskogee, Oklahoma passed away Wednesday, July 18, 2012 with his loving family at his side. He was born November 18, 1921 to Glen Barton Fishburn and Hazel Huston Fishburn. Frank attended grade school through high school in Medicine Lodge, Kansas. He furthered his education attending Ft. Hayes State College where he met his future wife, Fern Renberger. They were married on September 19, 1942 in LaCrosse, Kansas. During the war, Frank was a final inspector at an airplane factory in Oklahoma City, OK. Frank then attended Kansas State University where he received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1949. He and his family then moved back to Medicine Lodge where he practiced as a veterinarian from 1949-1966. Frank then taught at the KSU Veterinary School as an Equine Clinician from 1966-1968. Missing private practice, he started the Westside Veterinary Clinic and practiced there from 1968 until he retired in 1985. During this time, he also taught at the Nigeria Veterinary School. In 1968, Frank earned his private pilots license. He enjoyed many happy hours flying his airplane with Fern as his co-pilot. Frank had two articles published in the AVMA journal and other articles in several trade journals. He was a member of the AVMA, AAEP, AAHA, and the KVMA, where he served as treasurer for ten years. Frank was active as a Mason and a Shriner as well as serving in the Lions and Rotary Clubs. He also served as an Elder at the First Christian Church of Manhattan. In 1988, Frank was honored as Kansas Veterinary of the year. In 1993, Ardmore, Oklahoma became home to Frank

and Fern where they kept their horses, cattle and their airplane. He also began practicing veterinary medicine part time. Frank and Fern moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma in 2001 where they enjoyed spending time with their family and traveling. They also became active and faithful members of Boulevard Christian Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Fern; sister, Marguerite Barncord; and daughter, Arlene Goble.

Frank is survived by his children, Dr. Casey Fishburn and wife Jan of Muskogee, Anita Fishburn Klag and husband Tom of Edmond, OK.; grandchildren, Lindsay Fishburn of Lynchburg, VA., Lauren Fishburn Lee and husband Garrett of Manhattan, KS., Braden Fishburn and wife Courtney of Stillwater, OK., Kyle Fishburn and wife Jessica of OKC, OK., Chris Klag and wife Megan of Shakopee, MN., Allison Klag Crutchmer and husband Wes of Red Wing, MN., Matthew Klag of OKC, OK., and Lance Goble and wife Lynn of Redding, CA.

Family requests that memorials be made to Boulevard Christian Church, 1700 W. Shawnee, Muskogee, OK., 74401.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Boulevard Christian Church
1700 W. Shawnee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Tribute Wall



“ *Franklin John Fishburn*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Dear Fishburn families,
I just got the notice of Dr. Firshburn's passing and want to extend my thoughts and prayers to you.
I first came to know Dr. and Fern in June, 1971. I was a young graduate of the newly created Animal Hospital Technology program. Veterinarians in those days were not familiar with registered technicians, but Frank took a chance on me. I worked in the Westside Vet Clinic in Manhattan for seven years. Through those years I enjoyed many life long experiences that helped me develop my career for years to come. I remember Casey and I "planting" stone fence posts in front of the clinic and never drive by it without remembering that task. Then because I had a little carpentry ability I helped put some of the finishing touches on the house on the lake. I look back and think of the many acts of kindness he did for me, not because he was my employer, but because as a young couple we needed his guidance and incite. Frank was much more than my employer, he was a real "father figure" to me.
I'm so glad Dr. and Fern took the time to stop and visit my wife and I on one of their last trips through Manhattan. We were able to enjoy some laughs and memories with special friends.
You have all lost a father and grandfather, and all that knew him lost a dear friend and mentor.
Take care,
Ross and Sharon Hauck*

Ross Hauck - August 29, 2012 at 04:52 PM

DK

“ I was the "across the street" neighbor to your parents when they lived north of Manhattan on Rocky Ford. What wonderful people--- and then I discovered your dad was the one who chased the bull through the sorority house back in the late 60's! What fun he and I had recalling all those memories of the KSU rodeo team and the shanigans that happened under his watch as rodeo team sponsor. He was a hoot back then and I felt so fortunate to end up being his neighbor so many years later. Always a sense of humor and a kind word. Such a gentleman. May the good memories ease your transition to a world without him.

Donna Keyser - August 24, 2012 at 03:51 PM

CJ

“ To the Fishburn Family.....so sorry for your loss. I remember Frank and your whole family so well. Starting your your Grandmother Hazel. I even have some of her recipes my Grandmother shared with me! When I was little you all nearly seemed like family. My Grandmother was Opal Marquand. I know you remember her. Im Connie her Grand Daughter. My Mom Melba lives in Gramdma's house there in ML now. When I look over at that house next door I still remember you all sometimes. Thanks for the memories. Please take care. Connie

Connie Jones-Matias - August 21, 2012 at 07:04 AM

BE

“ To Dr. Fishburn's Family-

I just learned of Dr. Fishburn's death and want to send my sympathy to all. I have many memories of my years spent with him. He was like a second father, mentor and especially friend. He was one of the 'good ole guys' and will be missed. I'm pretty sure he is busy taking care of heaven's animals.

*Bob Esser
Riverton, WY*

Bob Esser - August 20, 2012 at 01:51 PM

JK

“ *Anita and family, I was so sorry to learn of your father's passing. He was always so friendly to me when you and I were kids. I know you will miss him. My dad is living with me and wants to extend his condolences, as well. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Jan Schneider (Janis Kinsey)*

Jan Schneider (Janis Kinsey) - July 20, 2012 at 11:28 PM