



Hans Neukomm

May 19, 1936 - January 3, 2011

Hans Friedric Neukomm passed away Monday, January 3, 2011 at the Manor after a five-year-long courageous battle with cancer. He wanted to maintain his health and strength and did so by going to the Corvallis Manor for Physical Therapy while he was having chemo at OHSU. Although Hans was fond of many of the staff at the Corvallis Manor, his favorite Physical Therapist was Mindy who helped him through his challenging times. Off and on during the last three year, the people at the Manor were like a family to him and were always loving and caring.

He was the son of Hans and Hermine Neukomm-Staempfli of Burgdorf, Switzerland.

Hans graduated with a BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the Ingenieurschule Burgdorf in 1959. He served in the Swiss Armed Forces for two and a half years, leaving the Service as a First Lieutenant. Following his military service, he joined the Power Company of the State of Bern and immigrated to the United States in 1963. He became a naturalized American citizen in 1968.

After two years with Pacific Gas & Electric Company in San Jose, California, he joined CH2M Hill in Corvallis in 1965 as a project engineer. In 1983 he was appointed Vice President and Director of Electric Utility Services with national and international responsibilities for electric power systems such as power plants, high-voltage transmission and distributions systems.

Hans was active in community and professional society volunteer work. In

1998, he was appointed by the Governor to the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council and served for eight years.

In 1982 he joined the Corvallis Rotary Club and served as President, Assistant District Governor and as Governor for 2003 – 2004.

His community service included on the Board of Trustees of the Good Samaritan Hospital and Linn-Benton Community College Foundations, Vice President of the Oregon Trail Council and Past Chairman of the Benton District Boy Scouts of America. In 1992 Hans founded Leadership Corvallis, Inc., and served as its President until 2003.

In recognition of his contributions and leadership in community charitable and service organizations, Hans was the recipient of First Citizen of Corvallis in 1995 and the Senior First Citizen of Corvallis in 2008. Also he received the prestigious Silver Beaver Award of the Boy Scouts of America in 1996.

He was preceded in death by his sister Heidi Greider-Neukomm. He is survived by his wife Adele and their two children, Hans Neukomm, Jr., Heidi Junge and her husband Matt; grandchild Lucas; a brother Kurt Neukomm and his wife Erica; a sister Bethli Stotzer-Neukomm; foster sister Anna Marie and her husband Franz Aerni, along with eleven nephews and nieces all of Switzerland.

Hans had a great interest and involvement in Leadership Corvallis, Rotary International, Oregon Trail Council Boy Scouts of America and Good Samaritan Foundation/Mario Pastega House. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to either the Hans Neukomm endowment Fund through Benton County Foundation or the Hans Neukomm Scholarship fund for future Leadership Corvallis participants in care of McHenry Funeral Home 206 NW 5th St., Corvallis, OR 97330.

A service is set for 2:00 pm, Friday, January 7th at Grace Lutheran Church in Corvallis.

Tribute Wall

MA

“ Adele and family, Our sincerest condolences to you on Han's death. He fought the good fight and found peace. We will keep you in our prayers.

Maryel Anderson - January 14, 2011 at 10:01 AM

JD

“ To The Neukomm Family,
We extend our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. My husband and I were fortunate to have the honor of knowing Hans, as well as to have been influenced by his leadership and involvement with CH2MHill, Leadership Corvallis, and Speaker Lunch. My husband came to know Hans as a result of the two being co-workers at CH2MHill. Hans' enthusiasm & encouragement were two reasons that my husband and I participated in Leadership Corvallis shortly after we relocated to Corvallis from Ohio in 1993; it was a wonderful and we have Hans to thank for that experience as newcomers to the area. We feel privileged to have known Hans, as well as to have been influenced by such a dynamic person & leader. We can profoundly state that we are better people for having gained experiences as a result of his involvement in the community and for having known Hans Neukomm. He will be missed by all.

Jeff & DianaKanyuch - January 07, 2011 at 12:16 AM

DT

“ I am glad that the USA still has not closed the door to immigrants like Hans. He always said that the USA allowed him to prove himself rather than depending on his family connections in Switzerland. He will be missed by all of us, and his life is a testimony of what someone can accomplish when they come to this country. Dick Tubb

Dick Tubb - January 07, 2011 at 12:14 AM

ML

“ *To Hans's family:*

I was a member of the fifth Corvallis Leadership class, and even though the years went by, Hans always seemed to remember who I was. He was an inspiration to all for his dedication to and caring for the citizens of Corvallis. His legacy will live on for many years through the good works of many people. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Mary Ann Lammers

Mary Ann Lammers - January 06, 2011 at 12:35 PM

PH

“ *On behalf of the Howland family, I express our sincere condolences on Hans Neukomm Sr.'s death. We had the opportunity to know Hans and Adele very well over the past years, and we will miss Hans' wonderful smile and wonderful personality. I am grateful for knowing this special person.*

Peter Howland - January 05, 2011 at 04:35 PM

MB

“ *Dear Adele, Hans, and Heidi,*

We've been on the Oregon coast and learned of Hans's death while staying here. We are, of course, much saddened to learn this sad news, but we take much comfort in his passion for life and his indomitable spirit. We return home tomorrow and will see you at Friday's service. Much Love, Marilyn and Art

Marilyn and Art Bervin - January 05, 2011 at 03:00 PM