



Dr. Neil Williams

July 3, 1928 - January 10, 2015

CEDAR FALLS -- Dr. M. Neil Williams MD, 86, of Cedar Falls, died Jan. 10, at Sartori Memorial Hospital.

He was born July 3, 1928, in Rochester, Minn. He married Lillian Anderson on June 15, 1950, in Duluth, Minn. Dr. Williams and his wife served as medical missionaries in Syria, Lebanon, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Jamaica, Haiti, Madagascar and Tansania.

He graduated from Waterloo East High School and earned his undergraduate degree from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill. He received his M.D. from the University of Iowa Medical School in 1952, and later, after a surgical residency at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, became a board certified general surgeon. He was a general surgeon in Cedar Falls for 34 years.

Survived by: his wife; four sons, Stephen of Salt Lake City, Robin of Missoula, Mont., Mark of Tucson and Jeff of Boulder, Colo.; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a brother, Mark.

Preceded in death by: a brother, Larry; a son, Thomas; a daughter-in-law, Shannon; and a granddaughter, Lindsey.

Memorial services: 11:00 a.m. Monday, July 6, 2015, at Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church Chapel, Cedar Falls, preceded by an hour of visitation.

Memorials: may be directed to Young Life or the church's mission fund.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church
7401 University Avenue
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-7589
<http://naz.org>

Memorial Service

JUL 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

NM

“ Dr Neil Williams was the reason I am in Cedar Falls. As he was retiring, he and his partner Dr Bob Savereide were recruiting. It didn't take long for these two to convince my wife and I that this was the place for us. Of course, being the straight talker he was, he did inform me that they were offering me too much money and that he and Bob were both leaving on vacation the day I would be starting. He was also the task for going on my first medical mission trip to Jamaica. He was scheduled to go but broke his foot cutting down a branch. He looked at me and said there isn't any good reason you couldn't go on this trip is there. And I went. He had a hand in this type of impacting events in my life and for that I am eternally grateful. Neil and Barb McMahon

Neil G McMahon, MD - July 05, 2015 at 09:38 PM

SA

“ Steve Amoah-Awuah purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. Neil Williams.



Steve Amoah-Awuah - July 05, 2015 at 07:00 PM

RC

“ I worked with Dr. Williams at Medical Associates in Cedar Falls in the 70's. He was a wonderful person, caring, loved his job, and his patients. During my Labor with my first son in Feb. 1974 he was scrubbed and ready to do a C-section on me, but fortunately my doc got him out with out having the C-section.. He also was a member of the church my parents went to. My father was a patient of his. Sending deepest sympathy to his family. Renee J. Church

Renee Church - March 19, 2015 at 12:50 PM

LF

“ *My mother is a room mate to Lil and has visited with Neil a few times. My Mother and I wish to express our sympathy to the family.*
Lynda Figi and Eva Jones

Lynda Figi - January 15, 2015 at 01:03 PM

MR

“ *Neil was one of my favorite people ever. A friend and a role model. Super blessed to have known him.*

I started a thread/post on my Facebook wall on 1/14/2015 where I've shared several stories about him and others have shared comments, too. Come on over and take a look if you're interested.

Obviously we'll miss him, but what else can you ask for? His was a life tremendously well lived.

Matt Reisetter - January 14, 2015 at 09:40 PM

DK

“ *Neil Williams was an influential person in my life. As a member of the US/World Mission Committee at Nazareth when Neil was the chair, I remember he was the driving force behind what has become a yearly medical mission trip to Jamaica. He and Lil were great role models of their Christian faith. He touched so many lives and truly was the hands and feet of Christ.*

Donna Kirschenmann - January 14, 2015 at 11:51 AM

DK

“ Donna Kirschenmann lit a candle in memory of Dr. Neil Williams



Donna Kirschenmann - January 14, 2015 at 11:43 AM

DS

“ Our deepest sympathy to Dr. Williams family. I have so many fond memories of working with him many years in the O.R. at Sartori Hospital. He was a kind and compassionate man to all who knew him and he will be greatly missed by many. Rest in peace Dr. Williams.



Darlys and Stan Saunders - January 14, 2015 at 09:16 AM

SM

“ Neil was a dedicated and outstanding physician. He and Lil welcomed me to Cedar Falls at a recruiting dinner in July 1986 which lead to my relocation to this fine city, where the Medical Community was devoted to serving mankind without selfish interests. His skill as a surgeon and warmth as a person, his dedication to quality health care, his leadership in the community, and his always smiling face has brightened Cedar Falls for many decades, and he will be greatly missed. But I know he lived a good life and did what he liked most, helping others. Rest in Peace. Steven Erickson, M.D.

Steven Erickson, M.D. - January 13, 2015 at 10:35 PM

JL

Neil was a wonderful friend, neighbor of some 20 years, and surgeon who on more than one occasion did some good work for me. In one case I feel he saved my life when, after retirement, he stopped in to observe another serious surgery which suddenly required assistance and he was able to render what was required to help salvage the situation. He was a dedicated missionary who spent many weeks in several countries, or a year such as Tanzania, dedicating his skills there. He served mankind and our community in many unselfish ways and will be greatly missed. Rest in peace, precious physician. Jerry Larson

Jerry Larson - January 15, 2015 at 10:10 PM

RJ

I was so saddened to read of this...I worked side by side with dr. Williams for many many years at Sartori what a wonderful example of a faithful man of Christ and a dedicated dr to all. He will be greatly missed by many. Rest in peace my old friend, thank you for walking the halls with me. Rae Jean Jeffries

rae jean jrffries - January 16, 2015 at 10:21 AM

SA

Neil and Lil used to call me their sixth son. When I moved from Dubuque Iowa to pursue the MBA degree at UNI in 1992 I didn't know anybody in the Cedar Falls area. Some friends in Dubuque were able to connect me with the Williams who extended their hospitality and generosity towards me. Thanks to Neil and Lil and their circle of friends especially Tom and Jan Reissetter I was able to graduate from UNI in 1994. I have since kept in touch with Neil. In fact I had planned to call him this past Christmas. We've lost a great man of God. One thing I know is that we will see Neil in Heaven. May he rest in Peace.

Steeve Amoah-Awuah - Nashville, Tennessee -February 15 2015

Steeve Amoah-Awuah - February 15, 2015 at 09:00 PM

SO

I know it is many days since Neil's passing, but I just now received the news. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family! Neil will be missed. I first met Neil when we were working with Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ) at UNI in 1980. We attended Nazareth Lutheran and were a part of the Evangelism Explosion training class. Often, on Tuesday nights, as a part of that class, Neil and I would pair up to visit with people in the community and share the love of Jesus. Those were special days. Shortly after we were transferred to Indiana University, but Neil and I would talk on the phone and catch-up regularly. He was a wonderful mentor and person! I'm sure his family will miss him a lot, as will all of us.

Sam Osterloh - Orlando, Florida - September 21, 2015

Sam Osterloh - September 21, 2015 at 09:11 AM