



Dr. Edwin Roland Larkin

September 3, 1936 - October 17, 2023

Dr. Edwin R. Larkin, 87, a pillar of public health in Wisconsin/mid-Michigan and a preventative healthcare pioneer, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on October 17, 2023, in Lansing, Michigan.

Ed cared deeply about his family and friends, his neighbors, and his community. He took great care with the younger generations to share his world and knowledge with them, encouraging and mentoring them to think bigger and think beyond. He enriched the lives of those he loved with books and sweets. You never knew what thoughtful token you might find delivered to your doorstep.

Also, a prolific writer, he captured his thoughts, feelings, observations and marked special moments and occasions in his life with words and verse amassing a lifetime of poetry that is treasured beyond measure.

Ed was the son of Roland and Helen (née Krismer) Larkin born September 3, 1936, in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He graduated from Aquinas Catholic High School in 1954 and pursued a Bachelor of Science at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse. Ed graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health in Madison in 1962 and completed his medical residency at Georgetown University Hospital in 1963.

He married the love-of-his-life, Janice Laylan, on June 9, 1962, in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She brought spirited fun to Ed's serious nature. Together, they created a rich, beautiful life full of family, great friendships, music, travel, and adventure.

Serving in Vietnam from 1963-1966, Ed was a Captain in the US Army HHC 25th Infantry Division APO SF 96225 USARV as a surgeon and physician. He was awarded three medals of commendation for his service.

Deeply committed to his education, Ed went on to complete a Master of Public Health from the University of California Berkeley in 1971 and settled in Hawaii where he was an Associate Professor in Public Health at the University of Hawaii Manoa. He served as the Assistant State Health Officer in Madison, Wisconsin from 1973 to 1980. Moving to Charlotte, Michigan, he served as the Barry-Eaton District Health Officer for 16 years retiring in 1996.

Throughout his tenure, Ed specialized in the health of individuals and communities focusing on how to protect and maintain health as well as prevent disease.

Ed is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Janice, and their two children, Erin (Karen) Larkin of Charlotte, Michigan, and Curtis (Jayne) Larkin of Minneapolis, Minnesota; three grandchildren: Skyler (Cambria) Larkin, Jenna (Jared) Burzan and Gillian Larkin; two great-grandchildren, Addy and Julian, along with his sisters, Mary Evans of Tucson, Arizona, and Sue Gilbert of La Crosse, Wisconsin; 10 nieces and nephews and wonderful friends and neighbors who were like family. He left an indelible imprint on the hearts and minds of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents, Roland & Helen Larkin, and his younger brother, Donnie.

Funeral services with full military honors will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, 1:00 pm, at St Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte, Michigan, with a family visitation one hour prior. A celebration of life luau will immediately follow at the VFW Post 2406 in Charlotte, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers or memorials, please honor Ed's lifetime commitment to local community health with a donation in his name to the Eaton Community Health Initiative: <https://ech-eaton.org/what-we-do/> The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

APR 27. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Edwin Roland Larkin*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 24, 2024 at 04:42 PM



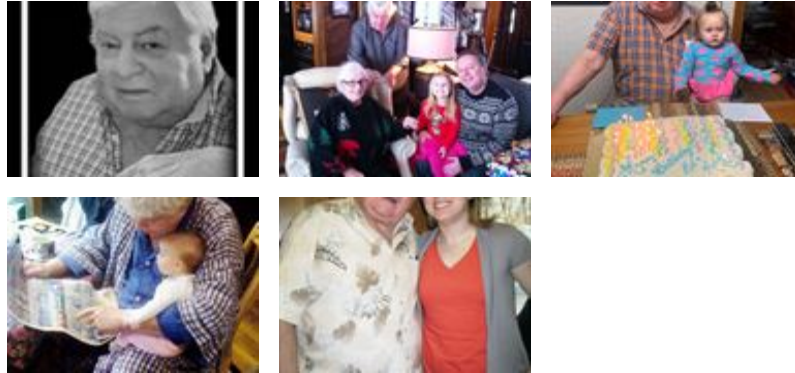
“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Edwin Roland Larkin*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 15, 2024 at 02:25 PM



“ 41 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 24, 2024 at 04:36 PM

LW

“ Dr. Larkin treated me for a broken foot. A cast was put on, but after after a month it got to stinking so bad I couldn't stand it. So, with bolt cutters I cut it off and went back to crutches. When I returned to his office for a check up the nurses said to me, "didn't you have a cast on your foot." I said I did but I cut it off. Dr. Larkin just laughed over it and said, well, if you want to go back on crutches that's ok by me. He was a good Dr. with a sense of humor. My condenses to his family. Good men like him is what makes this life better.

lawrence williams - April 23, 2024 at 07:31 AM

ST

“ Ed was a wonderful father and a great conversationalist too. He will be missed!

Susan Tigner - January 02, 2024 at 09:03 PM

ST

“ Ed is my cousin (his mom and my grandpa were siblings). We did not get the opportunity to hang out together much at all. Our families just didn't do that. And he was 12 years older than I. But I remember always being so proud to be able to say I was related to him because he was such a smart, kind, caring and faith filled person. And when he became the respected doctor that he was, I enjoyed bragging that he was related to me. When this man reached heaven's gate, there is no doubt in my mind that he loudly heard those words "well done, good and faithful servant". Sincere sympathy to his family. And I remember my Aunt Helen always being so proud of the son she raised. A great family, all of them. He will be sadly missed and richly remembered by so many. Blessings to all.

Sandy (Krismer) Thompson

Sandy Thompson - November 04, 2023 at 11:34 PM

BL

“ I am a childhood friend of Ed's wife Jan and remember well their wedding; two beautiful people in the healthcare field on their way to Washington DC to serve and enjoy their time there. Jan and I were in contact over the years and the last time I saw them was at our 40th class reunion. Ed was a Northside Catholic like my husband and they often spoke of their time at St. Johns Grade School. He was a handsome, affable and super smart guy who served his profession with dignity and pride. A loss to be sure. My sympathy to whole family. Barb (McCoy) Luehne

Barbara A Luehne - November 04, 2023 at 03:23 PM

DD

“ I remember Ed as the younger brother of my best friend Mary. Seemed he was an antagonist whenever we were around him!! Admired his intellect even then. My sympathies to family, especially Mary and Sue.

Donna Devic - November 04, 2023 at 09:43 AM

CW

“ Chad & Carol Walker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Edwin Roland Larkin



Chad & Carol Walker - October 27, 2023 at 10:24 AM

KL

“ Ed was my father in law and I was so lucky he was. The first time I met him he asked me if I knew anything about sports. Well about 30 minutes and a very spirited discussion later, he told Erin not to let me go because I was smart. I will always cherish our discussions about sports and politics. He was the best father in law I could have asked for!!

Karen Larkin - October 25, 2023 at 07:36 PM

MC

“ Curt and family, I'm very sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I admired his knowledge and love of this community. It's been many years since I've seen your dad, but as you know he was and still is, highly respected. Hugs to all.

Monique Colizzi - October 25, 2023 at 04:43 PM