



Klaus Kuehn M.D.

April 1, 1938 - May 9, 2020

Klaus Kuehn, M.D.

b. April 1, 1938

d. May 9, 2020

Dr. Klaus Kuehn was born in Breslau, in the Silesia region of Germany, to Max and Anneliese Kuehn (Hecht). In 1945, at the end of World War II, the family was forcefully relocated when that part of Germany was annexed to Poland. They ended up in Wolfenbuettel, near Brunswick, West Germany. He started high school in Wolfenbuettel, but the family moved again to Ulm, in Bavaria, where he finished high school. In 1956 his mother, two brothers, and younger sister emigrated to the United States with the help of the Lutheran Church. He attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota, graduating from Medical School in 1963. During this time in 1961 he married Eileen Nordgaard, having two children. When his family moved to California, he and Eileen followed, where he completed his medical internship at the UCLA affiliated Hospitals. He served in the US Army Medical Corps from 1964 to 1966 at the rank of Captain, specializing in Preventive Medicine. He then practiced Family Medicine, working for Kaiser Permanente. In 1968, he started residency training in Ophthalmology at UCLA, finishing in 1971. He practiced Ophthalmology in San Bernardino from 1971 to 2001, initially in partnership with the late Dr. Fred Hull. During this time, he met and in 1974 married his second wife, Lynda Hubbs. They founded the Eye Center of San Bernardino, providing Medical, Surgical and Optical Eye Care. The Eye Center was operated in a building they constructed and housed a fully functional ambulatory surgical center.

Dr. Kuehn is preceded in death by his father (1951), mother (2001), younger sister Gerlinde (1998), first wife Eileen (1995), and brothers-in-law Helmut & Andreas. He leaves behind Lynda, his loving wife of over 45 years, older sister Gisela of Wolfenbuettel, Germany, younger brothers Hannes (Rosi) of Simi Valley, Dietmar (Julie) of Colorado City, daughter Kristina Rysedorph (Trent Robertson) of San Diego, with grandchildren Jasper, Jared & Joshua, son Stephan (Kristi) of San Jose, with grandchildren Kevin and Lindsey, son Fred Edwards of Yucaipa, with granddaughter Nicole, numerous nephews and nieces, and beloved poodle Beebee.

Dr. Kuehn loved music of all kinds, especially classical. He played violin in the St. Olaf Orchestra and was active locally with the Community Concert Association. He continued to play his violins and other musical instruments in his collection to the delight of all at family gatherings. He enjoyed travelling extensively with his wife Lynda and family, both in North America and Europe. He also had a passion for photography, and for collecting cameras among other things.

Though not an active member of a congregation, he was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church.

Services are not planned, but per his wishes a Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.

Comments



“ Dear Lynda,
Our tears of sorrow have flowed after the news of Klaus' passing reached us. We wish that we would be physically closer to come visit and see you. Klaus will be missed dearly in so many ways. He was one-of-a-kind, for sure. He was always the "big brother" with good advice and opinions to share. We find solace in that he was able to spend his last days at home in your loving care. Thank you so much for that. We are hoping to see you and the extended family soon to celebrate Klaus' life in traditional Kuehn style.
Sending you our love for now. Dietmar and Julie.



Dietmar Kuehn - May 26 at 12:28 AM



“ Lynda and family.
My deepest sympathy. So very sorry to learn of Dr. Kuehn's passing.
Linda Stratton



Linda Stratton - May 18 at 02:56 PM



“ We will miss you brother-in-law of 45 plus years! I will miss your stories, our political discussions, and the shared experience of seeing our children grow up over the years in their “pack of cousins.” We will always remember the good times at you house.
Brenda Wilde Hubbs

Brenda wilde Hubbs - May 17 at 02:29 PM



“ I have many fond memories of Onkel Klaus. Many have to do with music or family road trips. When I was an adolescent, I believe it was in Montana, I was singing in the hotel shower, and Klaus heard me through door. When he came out, he said I had a tenor and expressed genuine interest in whether I was interested in singing. At the time, I was more into sports than music, and did not play any instruments or sing at school or anything, but I would later realize that the musical arts were more my thing than other forms of art. When I got older, I recognized that Klaus was similar, in that in his family, which is full of artists, most of the others (notably, Max, Hannes, Dietmar) worked with their hands creating visual and formed expressions. I shared my musical appreciations with Klaus, and also my mother, but never realized it until I was too old to really learn an instrument very well. I will always associate this connection with Klaus.

I also have very warm memories of those Yosemite family trips, driving caravan style with our two vans (dubbed Yellowjacket and Bluebird for CB communications):
“Breaker, breaker, Yellowjacket here. Bluebird, do you have your ears on, come back, over.” “Bluebird, here . . . we read you loud and clear. We will stop for gas in 20 miles.”

Other flash associations: playing Atari in San Bernardino, because the “Klausens” had Atari, and of course we did not. Watching a movie on a VCR (same reason). Going to Dr. Kuehn’s office to get eye exams, and seeing a hologram of a fly through certain glasses. I remember his laugh as sounding somehow more American than my parents’ laughs. I remember feeling comfortable speaking with him in German or English, because I think he was comfortable acknowledging that his English was better than his German, just like I am, and also, because he was married to an English-speaker, as most of us are. In the last few years, he called me sometimes to ask me questions about wine. A recent memory is that the last time I saw him at his house, he played Amazing Grace on his violin. I take comfort in that.

RIP Onkel Klaus.

Tomas Kuehn - May 17 at 12:42 PM



“ Dad, I can't believe you're actually gone. It's an empty feeling and I don't know how long it will be before it goes away. I truly enjoyed all our calls together, and the many visits we had the last couple of years. You are such a inspiration to us all, and we miss you so much. Love, until we meet again, Stephan.

Stephan Kuehn - May 12 at 09:12 PM