



Eugene C. Ott M.D.

January 15, 2012

Ott, Eugene C., MD age 82 of Edina died on January 12, 2012 surrounded by his loving family. Gene was born August 23, 1929 to Joseph and Hazel Ott of Milwaukee, WI, grew up in Minneapolis and is survived by his two brothers, Bill (Lucille) and Dan (Pat). He attended Washburn High School, College of St Thomas, and graduated from the University of MN Medical School in 1954. Gene was a man of integrity, adored by his family, loved by his friends, respected by his colleagues, and trusted by his patients. The first 22 years of his medical career were in private practice in Edina, a community he lived in and served all his life. He was invited to join the University of MN in 1977 where he worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine for Hennepin County Medical Center for over 20 years. During those years he developed his love for geriatric medicine, his passion for teaching new doctors the art of medicine and caring for a community that extended from the Twin Cities to communities throughout the world. During his career he served on many professional boards including Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN, Hennepin County Medical Society and Midwest Medical Insurance. He was elected president of the Hennepin County Medical Society and served as president of Hennepin County Academy of Family Physicians. His was a deeply meaningful life of service to others, giving of his time and talents to causes that reflected his values. He was an active volunteer and was honored to receive the United Way's Mary M Gates Achievement Award and WCCO's Good Neighbor Award for bringing quality health care to low income families.

His service expanded outside the community to clinics in Haiti, building homes in Mexico, and establishing an AIDS clinic in South Africa. He retired as Medical Director of Metropolitan Health Plan in 1998 but continued to work for peace and nonviolence both in the Social Justice Movement in the Twin Cities and around the world. He loved the ministries of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and became the Medical Director of the St. Mary's Health Clinics after his retirement. Gene loved his family, loved spending time with his kids and grandkids at the family cabin, loved woodworking and gardening, and enjoyed playing golf. In the final years he became a mentor to his grandkids in the game while still being a fierce competitor with his sons. For 57 years he was married to the love of his life and best friend, Mary Lou Mulcahey; a marriage held up as an example to his children, Chuck (Wendy), Terry (Debbie), Tim, Michael (Joanne), Dennis (Joanie), Kevin (Karen), Missy (David Janssen), Betsy (Tom Dunsworth), Christopher (Kellee), Kathleen Smith, and Ann Morissey Marlatt. From this he was blessed with 19 grandchildren, Gena, Billy, Ashley, Hannah, John, Charlie, Grace, Emily, Nick, Joe, Justin, Jenna, Seamus, Madlyn, Zachary, Kailyn, Casey, Ryan, Tommy and 3 great-grandchildren, Evelyn, Quincy and Cordelia as well as Peidad Torres and many nieces and nephews. The family wants to extend a special thanks to Joanne Yourchuck who helped us care for dad these past three years. Visitation on Friday, January 20th from 5-8 PM at Washburn-McReavy, Edina Chapel, W. 50th St. & Hwy 100. Funeral Service 11 AM Saturday, January 21st at St Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4501 3rd Ave S, Mpls with a visitation one hour prior. Memorials preferred to St. Mary's Health Clinics, c/o Sr's of St. Joseph of Carondelet, 1884 Randolph Ave, St Paul, MN 55105. Washburn-McReavy 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall



“ February 17, 2012 Dear Mary Lou, Though we haven't seen each other for years, I want to offer my condolences on the loss of Gene. I am sure he was well prepared and that you are doing very well. Still, life will be different, and I want to wish you the very best. My wife and I sometimes vacation in Minneapolis. I have a rosary booklet I would like to mail you, something I compiled, a different set of mysteries for each day of the week. Let me know if you are interested. Peace. John Kippley, P.O. Box 112035, Cincinnati OH 45211.

[Contact Me](#)

February 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mary Lou & Family, Just learned of Gene's death. What a fantastic celebration there was in heaven when he arrived and saw Jesus face to face for the first time. A beautiful moment for a great man. So sorry we could not be with you, we send our Love, Hugs and Prayers to all the Otts Bob & Marilyn Devereaux Scottsdale, Az

January 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FE

“ *Mary Lou, I'm so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. You two were a power couple in the most peaceful, healing sense. I'm sad for your loss, and for your family's. Sending you love, Faith*

~

Faith Edman,

Arizona

Faith Edman - January 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary Lou, I send my sympathy and prayers to you and your family. After reading the obituary, it's obvious that Gene was a wonderful man who affected peoples' lives in many ways. Blessings and Peace, Jeanne Schaller, Michigan*

January 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary Lou and. Childrenl have such warm memories of gene being my children,s doctor and of your family being such good neighborsWe are in Florida and will miss the services, sadlyMimi Villaume and John Harrigan*

January 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ott family - so sorry to hear of your loss. My dad just told me about this today; I am sorry I didn't know. I would have come to see you all and give you hugs. Fond memories of Dr. Ott. He was my Dr when I was younger. Great man. Great Dr.*

~

Mary (Peanut) Frey,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mary (Peanut) Frey - January 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ I've only known Terry for a short period of time but heard enough about his father to know what kind of man he was and what kind of men and women he raised. God Bless your family during your time of sorrow and may he wrap his arms around you and give you the comfort you seek. You will be together again in time and until then be comforted in knowing that he is watching over each and every one of you. God Bless...

~

Barbie Tripp,

Chesapeake, Virginia

Barbie Tripp - January 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ *Mary Lou and family, My sincere condolences on the loss of your Gene! I do have so many fond memories of the two of you and our trip to South Africa. With much admiration and love on a life generously and well lived! With my sympathy, Rachel*

~

Rachel Wobschall,

St. Paul, Minnesota

Rachel Wobschall - January 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear Mary Lou and family, Dr. Ott was a true leader, ... a leader by example. Condolences to you all.

~

Dennis Lee,

Arden Hills, Minnesota

Dennis Lee - January 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ To Tim and family, I send my prayers to you for your father. No matter what the age - it is hard to lose a parent. Peace to you and your family as you move through the grief process.

~

Dee Erickson,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dee Erickson - January 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NT

“*CONDOLENCES TO MARY LOU AND YOUR FAMILY THAT YOU AND GENE HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF NURTURING TO ADULTHOOD..MAY YOU ALL FIND SUPPORT IN EACH OTHER IN THE DAYS, MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD.YOUR GENE was indeed a Treasure, you can always be Proud to talk about and even brag about that man that was your Husband, Father, Grandpa, Gr. Grandpa,co-worker, or Friend. GOD BLESS.*

~

Nancy Thomas,

St. Louis Park,, Minnesota

Nancy Thomas - January 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“*Mary Lou and family I am deeply saddened to hear about Gene's passing. He was among the kindest and most considerate poeple I've ever known. He had not one drop of pretense in his dealings with everyone. As Medical Director of MHP he could be counted on for wisdom in the sometimes crazy world of managed care. He was truly a great and noble man and all who knew him mourn his passing. I will count working with him as one of my greatest experiences. Unfortunately I will be out of town and cannot be with you to say goodbye. God Bless your family and Gene's memory.*

~

Dave Johnson,

Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

Contact Me

Dave Johnson - January 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ *Mike and Joanne and family, So sorry to hear about your loss, you are in my thoughts. Blessings.*

~

Gabriel Ross,

St. Paul, Minnesota

Gabriel Ross - January 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *What a beautiful legacy of a man with a gentle soul that exemplified in his family, profession and service to mankind. God said, well done, my good and faithful servant" come home and rest!*

~

Lorraine Wilson Pittman,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Lorraine Wilson Pittman - January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the family of Gene: Maybe you will not remember us, but we met your Mom and Dad at a Marriage Encounter weekend, where Gene and Mary Lou were one of the team leaders. That weekend began a new life for Rol and I and we were blessed to have many years of a wonderful family life which we definitely feel began on that first weekend. We also became involved in Family Encounter which has blessed us with a solid loving family as yours no doubt is. The Lord has blessed us all very much. I am sure the great memories you have of your Dad and Grandfather will give you a lifetime of peace and guidance. Love to you MaryLou. Rol and Joan Glewwe*

January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ I will be out of town Friday and Saturday, otherwise I would be present to recognize one of the exceptional physicians in Minnesota, Gene Ott. Medicine has lost one of it's honored members. *Stuart Hanson, MD*

~

Stuart Hanson,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Stuart Hanson - January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I will be out of town Friday and Saturday, otherwise I would be present to recognize one of the exceptional physicians in Minnesota, Gene Ott. Medicine has lost one of it's honored members. Stuart Hanson, MD*

Minneapolis, Minnesota

January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Dear Missy and family, We are so sorry for the loss of a wonderful man. We didn't know him, but the words written here are truly amazing. He lived a full life and has a beautiful family. Wishing you all peace.

~

Melanie, Derek and Lincoln Hendrickson,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Melanie, Derek and Lincoln Hendrickson - January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ Dearest Ott family, I want to express my profound sympathy on the passing of Dr. Ott. I worked with him at MHP. He displayed a caring soul and a laughing spirit. He shared so much of himself with others and will truly be missed.

~

Hannah LaMere,

Ramsey, Minnesota

Contact Me

Hannah LaMere - January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ To the Family of Dr. Ott: Dr. Ott welcomed me to the St. Mary's Health Clinics when I began volunteering as a physician there. Those years stand among the most fulfilling in my practice- his example was outstanding. May your grief be tempered by the knowledge of all the good this fine man did. He will watch over you from Heaven's gate now. Jane Jasperson, MD

~

Jane Jasperson,

Mendota Heights, Minnesota

Jane Jasperson - January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Dear Mary Lou and family, The community has lost a wonderful guy who contributed so much to others. Wish we were in town to honor him and hug all of you. You are in our thoughts and prayers here in sarasota. Love, Mickey and Peter ritten

~

Mary Ritten,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mary Ritten - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MY

“ *Mary Lou and Family, I was so sorry to hear about Gene. He leaves behind a wonderful legacy - his wonderful family and the kindness he showed to others all around the world. My sympathy is with all of you.*

~

Mary Yuhas,

Delray Beach, Florida

Contact Me

Mary Yuhas - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Dear Family of Gene, I have two clear memories of Gene. In one, he and I were sharing a meal with two of his friends in a restaurant, and he humbly asked for their help to advance our shared mission. The friends said yes! In another, we were among a group of friends and colleagues in Nairobi, standing outside in the days after Mary Lou had been injured. Gene was being her doctor, nurse, husband and friend. He was ferociously protecting Mary Lou and we could barely get near her, as much as we wanted to share in her care. In both memories, Gene was fearless in his love. Gene was a role model for me, and when I think of Gene his life continues in me.

~

Erika Shatz,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Erika Shatz - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CU

“ Mike, Joanne, Dennis, Joanie, so sorry for your loss. Prayers and hugs sent your way. Colleen(Sienko)Urness

~

Colleen Urness,

Oakdale, Minnesota

Colleen Urness - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Dear Mary and Family of Gene Gene has been a father and friend ever since we met him almost a decade ago. His unbound joy and laughter always revealed his heart. We have had the blessings of being with him in Delhi and Nairobi. Mary and Gene remain among the best gifts of life even for us. We can imagine and understand what he means to you all. We deeply cherish and respect his memories with gratitude. Ramu & Sheela

~

Ramu Sheela,

India

Ramu Sheela - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Ott family, So grateful to have known Dr. Ott and to have been part of your family during my St Kate years. Lots of love to yall!

~

Susie Lyons,

Gainesville, Florida

Contact Me

Susie Lyons - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BL

“*Marylou and the rest of the Ott family. I got to know Gene over the years and he was a kind man. With a big heart to take care of those in need. We will all miss him.*

~

Bob and Chrissy Lamson,

Naples, Florida

Bob and Chrissy Lamson - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“*Mary Lou and family thinking of you during this difficult time. Juan - Welcyon*

January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Dear Mary Lou and family, May your memories and Gene's admirable life give you comfort. It was a gift to have been your neighbors. We send our condolences to you all.*

~

Jerry and Arlene Fingerman,

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Jerry and Arlene Fingerman - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Missy and Family, My thoughts have been with you and your family. Your father seemed like a great man, cherish those memories you have with him. Losing parent is difficult, embrace the love around you from family and friends. Robyn, Bob and Austin*

~

Robyn Skalberg,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Robyn Skalberg - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Ott Family, Our condolences on what must be a difficult time for you all. May you be comforted by being together to celebrate and remember what was a wonderful and full life in your father, grandfather and great grandfather.*

~

Calvo Scott Family,

Edina, Minnesota

Calvo Scott Family - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BC

“*Marylou and All The Family, We have beautiful memories of Gene and can only imagine the mountains of treasured memories in your own collections. We are grateful to have experieced some of life with the Ott family. We send our love and prayers for each of you while wishing we could be home for the celebration of Gene's life.*

~

Bob and Joan Campbell,

Palm Coast, Florida

Bob and Joan Campbell - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“*To the Ott family; thinking of you at this difficult time. May you be comforted by each other and the wonderful memories of your father. My deepest sympathies. Dora Krogh (Faribault, MN)*

January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Mary Lou and family, What a sad time for you all. He will be greatly missed. We pray you will take some comfort with your memories of what a loving, gentle, kind, sweet man he was. love, chris/tony foster*

~

Chris K Foster,

Granite Bay, California

Chris K Foster - January 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Dear Ott Family, We are thinking so fondly of Dr. Ott and wishing you all peace and wonderful memories. Paul and Jennifer Hovelsrud

~

Paul and Jennifer Hovelsrud,

Edina, Minnesota

Paul and Jennifer Hovelsrud - January 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Dear Mary Lou and family, my heart and prayers are with you. I wish I could be with you. I have many wonderful memories of Gene. His peacefulness and good example will always be with me.*

~

Jan Shapiro,

Sun City, Arizona

Jan Shapiro - January 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BM

“*Mary Lou and family, "Rather than mourn the absence of the flame, let us celebrate how brightly it burned." Holding you close in these sad days. See you Saturday.*

~

Barb Kass Mike Miles,

Luck, Wisconsin

Barb Kass Mike Miles - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ I knew Dr. Ott when we were both employed at MHP. I shall always remember his gentle nature and patience with me. He was a great teacher, compassionate being and someone I will always admire. May the joys you've known and the love you've shared comfort you today and in all your tomorrows.

~

Judy Osland,

St. Paul, Minnesota

Judy Osland - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I worked with Gene my last year of med school, in 1982-83, before I started my family medicine residency. J.Stebbins, M.D.

~

Jill Stebbins,

Sparta, Wisconsin

Jill Stebbins - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Missy and family, We are thinking of you and your family. Bob and I send our prayers and love. Myrt and Bob*

~

Myrtle Coleman,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Myrtle Coleman - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ *Missy, Dave, Emily, Grace and Nick and family- My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. May the family memories you share, help you get through this knowing he is at peace.*

~

Karyn Perry,

Oak Grove, Minnesota

Karyn Perry - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ *Missy, I am thinking of you and your family with love and understanding.*

~

Carol Jernberg,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Carol Jernberg - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM