



Kurt Anton Amplatz

February 25, 1924 - November 6, 2019

Born in Weistrach, Lower Austria on February 25, 1924 and died November 6, 2019 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kurt attended elementary school in Senftenberg and high school in Innsbruck, Austria. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Innsbruck in 1950. After completing his internship at the Krankenhaus St. Poelten he immigrated to the United States for another internship at Saint John's Hospital in Brooklyn, New York. Following a radiology residency at Wayne State University School of Medical (Detroit Receiving), he joined the radiology faculty at the University of Minnesota in 1957. He remained there until he retired in 1999.

Dr. Amplatz is truly one of the great pioneers in Adult and Pediatric Cardiology and Interventional Radiology. Besides publishing hundreds of scientific papers, book chapters and books and creating a multitude of medical devices, he trained generations of cardiologists and interventional radiologists who then went on to their own careers becoming renowned scientists, teachers, inventors and chairmen of radiology departments nationally and internationally, thereby enhancing the wellbeing of thousands of patients throughout the world.

Dr. Amplatz's creative genius did not stop with his retirement. He went on to found the AGA company in 1995 which most notably produced catheter based devices to treat infants and children born with life threatening heart defects replacing the more traditional and often risky surgical repairs. After AGA was acquired by St. Jude Medical in 2010, Dr. Amplatz started another medical

device company, KA Medical, which continues today. He has devoted his life for the betterment of mankind. He will be sorely missed by the medical community as well as by people at large. His legacy will live on for many decades to come.

Dr. Amplatz is survived by his four children, Curtis, Ria (Maria), Grace and Caroline Amplatz; grandchildren, Alexandra, Nicolas and Anton Gougeon; and long-term partner, Marianne Schulze. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. Anton and Maria Amplatz and sister, Maria Lampl of Austria; and his wife, Maxine.

A celebration of Kurt's life will be held next summer.

Memorials may be directed to: Kurt Amplatz Pediatric Cardiology Research Fund, #23271, University of Minnesota Foundation, PO Box 860266, Minneapolis MN 55486 or The Nature Conservancy MN, 1101 West River Pkwy, #200, Minneapolis MN 55415.

Tribute Wall

HS

“ *I will always remind of you! Rest in piece, Kurt!*



Hedi Silies - September 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *Dr. Amplatz was a mentor to many, including this biomedical engineer in training between 1972 and 1976. In my eyes, he was a brilliant, yet humble boss. My career in biomedical engineering was launched by my experience in his laboratory. May he rest in peace.*

James Leslie - December 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Back in the days of AGA Medical this modest and graceful man would walk to his work shop in slippers and classy sweaters in deep thought. His generosity appeared thru the employees that respected his mission and kind actions. A devoted man that shared his legacy with people that would continue on with his purpose. Still playing tennis in his eighties, I asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up. He replied " a legend " and smiled. My sympathy goes out to his family, friends and anyone that had the privilege of his presence.*

Barbara Schwankl - December 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ *It has been a wonderful privilege to have trained under Dr. Amplatz, to see and experience his kind, caring effort with each patient and to know of his many outstanding contributions. God bless you richly.*

Paul A.Baumann, M.D. - November 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ *As a 4th year West Virginia University medical student in 1966 I did an elective at the university of minnesota hospital with Dr. Yang Wang in cardiology. Whenever we visited Dr. Amplatz and his fellows in the cardiac interventional department I felt the extreme joy with which Dr. Amplatz and his fellows expressed. They seemed so happy in their work. Dr. Amplatz often was singing Edelweiss as we entered his office. I was so impressed with the general happiness of the radiologists working in that section that I ultimately selected Radiology as my specialty. Thank you Dr. Amplatz for your example of what seemed to be extreme satisfaction and happiness in your work. I retired having worked for 40 enjoyable years practicing diagnostic Radiology.*

barry diznoff - November 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Many of us are !
Through his ingenuity and inventions -which
revolutionized the field of Interventional
Cardiology- he touched and bettered the lives
of innumerable patients, doctors and
engineers all around the world.*

*I am grateful to have known him and worked with him for some
years during his long career.*

*Meine Gedanken sind bei ihm und seiner Familie - Mögen Sie in
Frieden ruhen, Herr Amplatz.*

Christoph Boosfeld



Christoph Boosfeld - November 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Grace,
I am so sorry to hear about your father. He was so accomplished,
he must have made you vey proud. My heart goes out to you and
your family.*

Kathe Barrett - November 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *This earth has lost a true friend of people and animals. His teaching
lives on through all of us lucky enough to have trained in radiology
at Univ MN. Long after my training he remained a friend, kept in
touch and was curious about my son and me as we "grew up".
There aren't words sad enough to describe how I feel. Good bye
dear man.*

Sue

Susan Roux - November 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ We are heartbroken to learn of Kurt's passing and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. He was the kindest, most genuine, not to mention generous man you could ever meet. We created many wonderful memories during our skiing vacations together in Aspen and we will always cherish them. Kurt, you will forever hold a special place in our hearts. With love, Vincent, Sonja, Kevin, and Sean D'Souza

Sonja D'Souza - November 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ To my old friend Grace. I am very sorry to hear that you lost your father. I know you were very close to him. What a great man. I sure would love to catch up with you Grace. It's been 35 years.
720-626-4722

Tom Keppel - November 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ So sorry to learn of Kurt's passing. We have lost a fine neighbor, a great innovator and a gentleman dedicated to his profession. He shall be missed. Sympathy to all of you.

Emily Douglass - November 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Kurt Amplatz was indeed a great man with prodigious creativity, an admirable genius and pioneer in Interventional Radiology. R.i.p.



Rolf W. Guenther MD - November 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ *My sympathy to Marianne Schulze and Kurt's family*

Gail L Steward - November 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *I am reaching out to Ria. I just wanted to send my condolences for the passing of your dad. When we were growing up he was always so kind and encouraging to our riding group! Your house was so close to the stable and we would stop over a lot, sit in your kitchen and talk and eat all your food!*

Ria, you are in my thoughts and my prayers. Your dad will be deeply missed and will be forever close to you in your heart.

*Love,
Meg*



Meg Lauder Hooley - November 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Dr. A has touched so many lives in so many ways that it is difficult to truly comprehend. Our paths crossed at work and my proudest professional achievements were under his watch. I will always admire and respect Doc for his giant contribution to the betterment of people everywhere.*

Jana (Brandt) Santer - November 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *A man of great vision and also great compassion, he will be sorely missed*

Matthew Whaley - November 15, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *Great Doctor! Legend to all of us Interventional Cardiologists*

Guilherme Almeida - November 15, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *Dr. Amplatz was a fixture in our Blizzard skiing days. He loved the slopes, and was happy to ski with him once in CO too. Amplatz family, my heart goes out to you...a life well lived!*

Jody - November 15, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ *Rest in peace Uncle Kurt...
You have no idea of the amount of happiness
you brought into my life.*

*In Love,
Christina*



Christina Amplatz - November 14, 2019 at 12:00 AM