



Wallace LeRoy Swanson

November 18, 1927 - October 26, 2022

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022, Wallace Leroy Swanson, beloved father and grandfather, passed away. He was 94. Wally was born on November 18, 1927 to Arvid Swanson and Clara Swanson née Mattson in Minneapolis. He was the 5th of 8 children. Wally served in the US Navy in China in 1946, where he felt called by God to become a missionary doctor. He attended Asbury College where he met Charlotte Dillon, his future wife. Wally graduated from Bowman Gray (Wake Forest) School of Medicine in 1956 and moved to Ecuador in 1961, where he served as a medical missionary at Hospital Vozandes for over four decades. Early in his career Wally served in the Amazonian region where he particularly enjoyed holding clinics in remote indigenous communities. Wally was recognized for his service as Missionary of the Year by the Christian Medical and Dental Associations and Alumnus of the Year from Asbury University and Wake Forest University School of Medicine. After Char died in 2001, he married fellow missionary Helen Broach. Wally is survived by his five children, Tod, Jeffrey, Lori, Daniel and Lisa, his sister Sharon Peterson, as well as 15 grandchildren. A funeral service will be held on Sunday, October 30, at 11 AM at Washburn McReavy Glen Haven Chapel (5125 W Broadway Ave, Crystal, MN 55429).

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Chapel Service

OCT **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Reception

OCT **30**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Tribute Wall

PD

“ I met Wally while serving with Reach Beyond in Quito, Ecuador. It was a privilege knowing him and having fellowship with him and others. May you sense the Lord's comfort and peace these difficult days. Heaven is rejoicing! Pat Dille

pat dille - October 31, 2022 at 01:30 PM

BE

“ My sincere condolences to all the children and other family members of Wally Swanson. I am so grateful for all the years I was able to serve alongside Wally in our hospital and medical caravan service in Quito, Ecuador. A special experience was when we assisted with disaster relief after the severe earthquake in the Santa Rosa area in the jungle of Ecuador. We were given time with the USA Marine helicopters and we were flown into the villages isolated and needing healthcare along the rivers as roads were destroyed. I was with Wally as we visited about 6 villages in 2 days. Wally served very faithfully and he was dedicated to share Jesus' Love with those in need. I am sure Heaven is rejoicing with his arrival. God's comfort be with you all. I will be praying for you all. Betty Van Engen RN (nurse serving for 41 years with Reach Beyond (HCJB World Radio) Medical services.

Betty Van Engen - October 30, 2022 at 08:00 PM

HC

“ *As a child I was impressed by what I heard about Uncle Wally's service to others. As an adult, I got to observe his warmth and kindness firsthand when he and Aunt Char warmly welcomed my husband David and me and our baby daughter into their home in Quito for several weeks when we came to do Quichua survey work. We admired and respected him tremendously. Although he worked hard, he didn't seem rushed, but gave us time and a listening ear. Jesus shone through him. We will miss him.*

Heidi Coombs - October 27, 2022 at 09:21 PM