



Dr. John B. Lambert

July 5, 1929 - June 13, 2024

Dr. John Boyd Lambert, 94, passed away on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at his home in Lake Forest IL. He was born on July 5, 1929, in Billings MT to Jean Lambert and Gail Boyd Lambert. The family lived in nearby Joliet where his father was Superintendent of Schools just 5 miles from Boyd Montana, a town founded by his maternal grandfather who was the first pioneer male to reach the age of 21 in the state. The family moved to Seattle where his father was appointed Assistant Headmaster of Lakeside School, and became a beloved math teacher. John grew up at the school until he left to attend Princeton University where he earned his undergraduate degree in 1951. He was first in his class of Chemical Engineers, graduating Summa Cum Laude, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. A Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison followed. His professional career began in 1956 at DuPont in Wilmington, Delaware. In 1969, he joined Fansteel, Inc., in Baltimore. In 1971, he moved to the Chicago area where he shifted his focus to metallurgy and moved through management levels, concluding his career as Vice-President and Corporate Technical Director. He then established a consulting business which attracted customers worldwide. He was a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, American Chemical Society, American Society for Metals, Electrochemical Society, and Sigma Xi. He earned the University of Wisconsin Distinguished Service Award and the Charles Hatchett Medal from the Institute of Metals. He holds 13 US patents and published many technical articles. He served on the Boards of Directors

of Delta Star, Inc., and Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. After the death of his third wife, John managed her travel agency for four years. He was a worldwide traveler both for business and pleasure and organized and led trips for his friends.

John was a man of the highest integrity. He was guided by a pure moral compass from which he could not be dissuaded. Despite many personal tragedies, the first of which was his first wife's death when their three children ranged from 3 1/2 years to 3 months old, he never complained. He delighted in golfing, touring the California wine country, travelling the world over, sailing his Lake Michigan sailboat on Geneva Lake, entertaining, and viewing the sunsets and July 4th fireworks from the deck of his lake house in Fontana WI.

John is survived by four children, William Lambert, Patricia Lambert-Carhoff, Catherine Reece, Karen Lambert, and his longtime friend, Martha Lewis.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Jean Bullard Lambert, his former wife, Marlene, his third wife, Ilse, his grandson, Thomas Carhoff, his son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Janet Lambert and his sister, Marylee Carson.

A visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. followed by a funeral service at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, June 27, 2024 at Church of the Holy Spirit, 400 E. Westminster, Lake Forest, IL. Interment will be 12:30 p.m. Friday at Roselawn Memory Gardens, Lake Geneva WI. A Memorial Service will be scheduled for a later date. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

Church of the Holy Spirit
400 E. Westminster
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Funeral Service

JUN 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Church of the Holy Spirit
400 E. Westminster
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Tribute Wall

SL

“ I’m John’s stepdaughter Stephanie Lambert. He was the only father I knew from the age of two onward. He gave me his name. I know in my heart, despite what another or some others may claim, that Dad considered me his daughter. He loved me, my husband, Mitch Berdie, and our three children, Anne, Lisa and Joel as his grandchildren. Regretfully, he wasn’t of sound mind to learn he had another great-grandchild, Marlena, born recently to him from Lisa and her husband Jack. We were never able to let him know. He would love her too and be heartened to know the circle of life in our family continues together even as he passes.

I have many fond memories over my lifetime with Dad. Many were complicated as we had a very complicated “yours-mine-and-ours” family structure with divided loyalties. Never-the-less, our family bonds were strong, maintained across the generations, even amidst unexpected and tragic losses, not to mention the trauma we most recently experienced amongst our own sibling generation with the deaths of brother Tom and his wife Jan along with a young caretaker “Awish” in their house fire.

Unfortunately, my most vivid memories at present of Dad are of his late-stage Parkinson’s Disease with his incipient and steady decline in functioning: largely physically as he lost increasing mobility and cognitively, as he lost his capacity to reality-test, recall, reason, and thus his ability to make decisions while appreciating the impact of his decisions.

Within the past two to three years, Dad suffered immensely but gamely struggled on. Our family jokingly nick-named him Lazarus as he seemed to somehow rise from the dead despite all odds. Not just once, twice, or three times. We marveled at his tenacity and wondered what unfinished business compelled him to remain on our planet against all medical odds? Clearly Dad wasn’t finished. We hold such immense gratitude for the incredible round-the-clock hands-on care Dad received from his wonderful caregivers Marylou and Sheila which daughter Patti located several years ago and positioned in Dad’s home to honor his wish to live out his final years at home. They were the boots on the ground, caring for him, witnessing all the behind-the-scenes events in real time. Marylou

and Sheila were also the only ones willing to share any information at all to any of Dad's family about his day-to-day status, his emergency transports and acute admissions to the hospital, his inpatient progress, transfer to other levels of treatment, facilities and ultimate discharge home with his exquisite needs for treatment. They were Dad's angels and we so appreciate the whispers they risked to keep us in connection with Dad.

My biggest regret for Dad with his last time here on the planet is the isolation he had to endure from us since May, 2022. We were blocked from talking directly to/with him. We were similarly blocked from visiting him. He was confused, without any framework to understand the felt sense of abandonment he experienced from his family. We have no way of knowing what he was told, but we do know what others were told. That is heartbreaking to us. We worry, wonder, and just have to hope he carries the felt connection we held with him amongst us.

Dad suffered during his last days because basic medical recommendations were disregarded. It was awful to be so helpless, unable to support the interventions he had so often discussed with us. We grieve because his wishes to donate his body to science and then to be cremated were not honored. We forwarded photographs of the gravestone Dad had in fact long ago commissioned, engraved and placed alongside Ilse's. We're grateful that this obvious reflection of one of Dad's wishes will be respected. The absence of us, Dad's surviving family, will be conspicuous at his funeral and burial. We were not invited, nor would we have been welcomed, and we suspect, would have once again been blocked. We are all grieving the loss of him but are so relieved he's no lon

Stephanie Lambert - June 26, 2024 at 09:36 PM

SL

(Cont'd from above) no longer suffering. There will be a private celebration honoring Dad, John Lambert, held by and for his family and friends in the near future. Please contact us if you wish more information. Any donations in honor of Dad, John B Lambert to the Parkinson's Foundation will be appreciated.

Stephanie Lambert - June 26, 2024 at 10:17 PM



Beautiful sentiments

Patti Lambert-Carhoff - August 03, 2024 at 06:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. John B. Lambert.*



June 24, 2024 at 03:56 PM

TM

“ *Tim, Ron, Sharon & Dan McGinnis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. John B. Lambert.*

Tim, Ron, Sharon & Dan McGinnis - June 24, 2024 at 03:56 PM

LO

“ While I was unable to meet Mr. Lambert in person, I had the privilege of speaking with him several times by phone as the dear friend of his daughter Karen S. Lambert. What a kind, gentle, loving man with such an impressive and accomplished educational and professional life! It was beautiful to observe the way in which he loved and cared for his daughter. I post this message now in support of his entire family as we all wish him a safe spiritual journey home. 💜🕊

Lorna Michele Orndorff - June 21, 2024 at 08:56 AM



Thank you Lorna ❤️🌸

Patti Lambert-Carhoff - August 03, 2024 at 06:09 PM