



John H. Bancroft

April 8, 1933 - April 17, 2024

John Hall Bancroft, age 91, of Plano, TX, formerly of Kearney, passed away Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 in Plano, TX. Memorial services will be 9:30 a.m., Saturday, July 20, 2024 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church with Reverend Stephanie Swinnea officiating. Burial will follow at the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 19, 2024 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Kearney Area Community Foundation <https://www.kearneyfoundation.org/donate>. Please visit www.hlmkfuneral.com to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney is assisting the family with arrangements.

Education: Oak Park, Illinois Public Schools 1938-1946 Kearney High School 1946-1950; University of Colorado 1950-1954; Bachelor of Arts Northwestern University School of Medicine:1954-1958; M.D. Internship: Mary Fletcher Hospital, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 1958-1959; Surgical Residency: Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL:1959-1963; Master's Degree in Surgery, University of Illinois: 1961; Diplomat, American Board of Surgery, 1964, Recertified 1980; Fellow American College of Surgeons, 1967; Licensed to practice medicine, Nebraska, Illinois, California.

Married Barbara Ann Roos of Negaunee, MI January 5, 1963 in Oak Park, IL.

He has two children, Dr. Mary Bancroft Lux of Norfolk, NE and Christopher Bancroft of Plano, TX. He has six grandchildren. Captain, U.S. Army Medical Corps, Bad Kreuznach, Germany; 1963-1965; Private Practice of Surgery, 1965-1995, Kearney, Nebraska; Member of Nebraska Medical Association, AMA; Southwestern Surgical Association; Nebraska Medical Association Committee on Professional Standards Review, 1974-77; Chairman 1977.

Past President of the following: Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Staff; Buffalo County Medical Society; Kearney Sertoma Club; Kearney Country Club; Member, Red Cross Board of Directors, 1969-1972; Red Cross Medical Advisor, 1969-1995; 25 Gallon Blood Donor; Central Nebraska Community College School of Practical Nursing Advisory Board 1980-1986; Member of the Elks National Foundation; Sertoma Life Member; ran the Sertoma Yard of the Month program, 1970- through forever; Member and Chairman Kearney Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 1981-2007; Kearney Trolley Board 2002-2005; Charter Member of the Kearney Area Community Foundation and the Kearney Public Schools Foundation; UNK Institutional Review Committee; 2010 Kearney Area Community Foundation Board 2011; Boy Scout Pack master 1975; Leader and co-founder, Kearney Area Medical Careers Group; Boy Scouts of America 1973-75; St. Lukes Episcopal Church Vestry 1980-82; Sertoman of the Year Award 1985-86; "GRUNDY" Award from the Kearney Tennis Association 1990 for outstanding contributions to tennis; Kearney Public Schools Foundation "Outstanding Alumni" Award for 2001-02.

Hobbies: travel, gardening, collecting & sowing wildflower seeds, reading, golf, tennis, skiing, and hunting, planted wildflowers at several friend's homes, plus the north bank of the Ted Baldwin soccer fields, and both the Kearney Country Club and Meadowlark Golf Courses and in spots along the Kearney Hike-Bike Trail. Unfortunately, most of the plantings became overgrown in a few years.

John was quite the storyteller. Ask anyone who has waited in line with him. He loved to laugh. He loved to garden - Mary and Chris can attest to the Colorado trips interrupted by the roadside wildflower seed procurement. Sports was a huge part of his life - coaching Chris in little league - affectionately nicknamed 'The Dancing Bear' by the team, due to his largess and constant pacing. Chris will miss his phone calls immediately after an important football scores or plays on ESPN. His stories of college and his youth adventures were never-ending. In his last years, he missed his wife and his hunting, golf and tennis buddies. He always remarked he lived a good life, saw many things with great friends. His life is full of success, accomplishment and memories. We should all be envious of such a full life.

Surviving relatives include his daughter, Dr. Mary Lux (David) of Norfolk; son, Christopher Bancroft (Cynthia) of Plano, Texas; stepbrother Al Candy (Lucille) of Lawton, Oklahoma, grandsons, Paul Lux, Raymond Lux (Emma fiancé), Alec Bancroft; granddaughters, Therese Johnson (Jay), Abigail Bancroft. Natasha Lux(Peter); many special friends.

John was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Barbara, brothers, Burt Bancroft , Al and Thomas Candy and grandson Peter.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 19. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl
2421 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 237-2259
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

Memorial Service

JUL 20. 9:30 AM (CT)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
2304 2nd Ave.
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall

TK

“ A Friend Of My Dad's, Rex J. Kelly, Assistant Hospital Administrator, Good Samaritan Hospital 1953 - 1966. Dad Talked About John Bancroft Alot; He Was A Contributor!! 😊. T. E. Kelly 🇺🇸❤️🙏 The Cocklebur Nebraska America 🇺🇸❤️🙏 Thursday, July 19th, 2024.

T. E. Kelly - July 18, 2024 at 05:04 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John H. Bancroft.



July 12, 2024 at 03:59 PM

LR

“ Love- Evie, Cindy and Rick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John H. Bancroft.

Love- Evie, Cindy and Rick - July 12, 2024 at 03:59 PM

KS

“ Dear Mary and Chris: Please accept my sympathy on the passing of your Dad. I was very fond of both Barb and John. You have many memories of both to help you deal with the loss. this is part of life, but it is still difficult. I send my love to you and your families.
sincerely, Kay Horner

Kay Horner (Mrs. Jack Sr.) - July 11, 2024 at 08:46 PM

SS

“ Oh my...did I ever love “Dancing Bear.” Absolutely one of the best humans I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. I have never enjoyed a baseball coach anymore than I did him. We were not a very good baseball team but man did he ever make it fun. I think one of the most funny things I remember was him drafting a kid named Glenn Maddox because he was convinced that guy had played in the MLB. Turned out, not the same guy. John was one of the funniest people I have ever known. He always had a funny story to tell and the best laugh to go with it. I have nothing but great memories of him. What a loss for you, Mary and Chris. You have my most sincere condolences. Rest easy, DB. You were the very best of the best.

Much love,
Stacy (Imming) Sykes

Stacy Sykes - April 22, 2024 at 01:38 AM

RR

“ We had some good talks when you came into Kearney Floral! I will never forget you!
Rita Rodriguez

Rita Rodriguez - April 21, 2024 at 08:48 AM

CT

“ *Mary, Chris and families,
My deepest and heartfelt sympathy to you all.
He was such a special surgeon and person.
Dr John delivered my 2 babies. On the 2nd
one I got told I was interrupting the NE-
Alabama football game. It was the conversation as everyone was
preparing for my C-section. He was such a jokester. It was a
privilege to know him. I know he will be greatly missed.
Sincerely,
Coleen Wise Towery*



Coleen S Towery - April 20, 2024 at 05:26 PM

PW

“ *My deepest sympathy to Mary and Chris and families. My first
grown up job after college was working for Dr. Kimball and Dr. John
in their surgical office. I learned so much from them but what I
remember most was how much they loved their patients. They
would go above and beyond for them whether it was squeezing in a
procedure when their wasn't time or waiting past closing time to see
a patient post op. Dr John was such a delight! Heaven got a good
one.
—Patty Curtiss Wilson*

Patty Wilson - April 19, 2024 at 03:05 PM