



Dr. John Everette Lee MD

May 5, 1932 - August 9, 2024

** Posted as a courtesy at the request of the Lee family. **

Dr. John Everett Lee died on August 9th at home in the company of lone, his beloved wife of 63 years, and surrounded by family. He was 92.

Voracious reader, agile intellect, and sardonic observer, John embraced a spacious range of medical endeavors. He often emphasized careful listening as a productive technique: “Don’t just do something; stand there.” He loved adventurous travel with lone and relating to an extraordinary range of people. In his later years as an accomplished woodworker, he acknowledged the intensity of his urge to address challenges and make things. This practical enthusiasm characterized his life: he called it his “muse.”

Born and raised in Charlotte, NC, John attended Woodberry Forest School. He graduated with distinction from Princeton University and Duke University School of Medicine. As a captain in

the U.S. Army, he practiced psychiatry and neurology at Valley Forge General Hospital before moving to NYC, where he practiced and taught at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical College.

John spearheaded the first trials of the drug L-DOPA for the treatment of Parkinson's Disease.

In later private practice, John and his partners introduced the first CT scanner in Atlanta,

offering one of the first outpatient CT services in the nation. He also practiced and taught as

Medical Director of Northside Hospital Sleep Disorders Center. John was an elected Fellow of

the American Academy of Neurology, an early President of the Georgia Neurological Society,

and Chair of the Department of Medicine and Chief of Staff at Northside Hospital. John was a

Trustee of Northside Hospital and the Hospital Authority of Fulton County.

For a self-described unsuccessful athlete, he was astonishingly active. He was a beloved

Scoutmaster and an unflagging outdoorsman, hiking across high mountains of eight states. An

inveterate swimmer, he did a mile of laps every day. An enthusiastic sailor, he crewed or

skipped an array of boats and eventually made an Atlantic crossing. John also had an

enduring fascination with the automobile, eventually owning 35 cars over the years, starting

with a 1935 Ford rumble seat coupe. Most of them blasted classical music.

A lifelong woodworker, John began by making Shaker boxes in the basement

of his army home in Valley Forge and eventually produced sought-after sculptural furniture from his shop at the corner of Culpepper and English Streets in Atlanta. A keen admirer of craft communities, he served on the Board of Trustees of Penland School of Craft for 8 years.

John is survived by his wife, Ione; his two children, Sarah Lee (Chris) Choa of London, UK, and Jonathan (Susan) Lee of Hartsville, SC; his five grandchildren Isabel (Nico) Elson-Enriquez, Everett ("Evie") Elson, Edward Lee (Ed) Elson, Mary Coker Lee, John ("Jack") Lee; his sister Sarah ("Tinka") McArdle; his loving nephews and nieces; and his step-grandchildren, Lauren, Cameron and Kyle Meyers and Nick and Henry Choa.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 23rd, at 2:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3003 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30327. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Penland School of Craft <https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/32370/donations/new> or Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Disease research <https://www.michaeljfox.org/tribute>

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Dear Jonathan, Susan and Family,
I'm sorry to hear about the loss of Dr. Lee. I know that he has a very special man and will be greatly missed. I had the privilege of meeting him and really enjoyed speaking to him. This is a great loss to many, but his positive impact he made will never be erased.

Sincerely,
James Dyal

James Dyal - August 21, 2024 at 11:28 AM

II

“ Irene Ingram lit a candle in memory of Dr.
John Everette Lee MD



Irene Ingram - August 16, 2024 at 04:37 PM

PC

“ Dear Lone, Jonathan, and Sarah. I am sorry for your loss. John was as fine of a man as there can be. I always enjoyed seeing him and talking with him about boats, cars, history, and scouting. He will be missed, and I will keep you all in my prayers. Sincerely, Pressly Coker

Pressly Coker - August 16, 2024 at 08:42 AM