

Dr. Edward George Foxley Jr.

November 23, 1938 ~ June 1, 2024

Edward George Foxley Jr. known to all as “Ted”, was born in Salt Lake City St. Mark’s Hospital on November 23, 1938 to Edward George Foxley Sr and Dorothy Gabbott Brown. The youngest of three, he spent his childhood and college years in Salem Oregon. Ted was an excellent student and gifted athlete. He graduated from South Salem High School where he played football, but where Ted truly excelled was in track and field. Ted attended Willamette University where he honed his skills throwing the Javelin. Ted was a world-ranked Javelin thrower and was invited to try out for the United States Olympic team. As fate would have it, just days before the tryouts, he broke his ankle playing a game of pickup basketball which dashed his Olympic dreams.

Following his graduation from Willamette with a degree in Chemistry in 1961, Ted attended the University of Oregon Medical School graduating in 1965 with a Doctor of Medicine. He completed his internship at St. Mary’s hospital in Tucson AZ, where he would help catch rattlesnakes to create anti-venom on his days off. On one trip, Ted was holding open the burlap sack for the snake handler who had the loop from the snake stick a little too far back from the snake’s head, and Ted was struck on the inside of his wrist. Ironically, Ted was successfully treated with the very anti-venom he helped to create. Following his internship, he completed a one-year residency in Dermatology in Michigan and a three year Internal Medical residency at Fresno County Hospital in Fresno CA, where he was distinguished with the responsibility of Chief Resident.

Dr. Foxley practiced Internal Medicine privately during which time he kept his medical knowledge current by attending various continuing education opportunities. While working on the hospital infection control committee, Dr. Foxley was asked by the director of nursing to fill the role of hospital epidemiologist, to which he replied, “I thought you would never ask”. Also on the committee was nurse Betty Dickensheets Bartels, herself an RN specialist in infection control, who was less than thrilled as the two of them had butted heads over hospital infection control policy in the past. What began as a very icy professional relationship warmed to a fifty-year marriage beginning on December 6th 1974. In 1985 Dr. Foxley switched his focus to the practice of hospital-based Emergency Medicine until his retirement which was necessitated by compounding health issues.

Ted was a lover of the outdoors with a fondness for upland game bird hunting, duck hunting, and big game hunting. However, his greatest passion was standing in the middle of a river, flyrod in hand, anxiously anticipating the next hatch. He was devoted to the conservation of America’s rivers and wetlands and was an avid supporter of Trout Unlimited and Ducks Unlimited.

In his quiet time, Ted was a voracious reader of a wide range of topics including American History, politics, science fiction, and fantasy.

Ted was a life-long member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. His family heritage includes early members of the Church who immigrated from Europe via Canada and others from Denmark via Nauvoo. He loved the Gospel.

Ted passed from this life the morning of June 1st the consequences of a fall 9 days earlier which resulted in a broken back, complicated by Multiple Sclerosis. His wife Betty nursed him throughout his illness and was by his side until the very end.

Ted was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Helen Foxley (Sorensen). He is survived by his sister Marilyn Foxley (Williams), his wife Betty, his stepchildren Samuel Bartels, Vincent Bartels, Stacey Bartels (Hamilton), Leslie Bartels (Wasden), and his children Kristen Foxley, Shannon Foxley, Sean Foxley, as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A family graveside service will be held in western Colorado at a later date.