



Lincoln Parkes

February 10, 1928 - February 7, 2023

Lincoln John Parkes, DVM, of Oxford, MD, passed away on February 7, 2023, at Johns Hopkins Hospital after a short illness.

Dr. “Nick” Parkes was born on February 10, 1928, in Gloucester, MA, the son of the late Robert Henry Parkes and Margaret Giles. In his early childhood, he got the bug for sailing and fashioned his first sailboat using an umbrella for a sail and continued to be an avid sailor until his death. He also was entrepreneurial from a young age – selling chicken eggs to purchase his first car before the age of 16. He enlisted in the US Naval Air Corps at the end of World War II with a desire to fly and serve his country. For a brief stint after WWII, he was a ski instructor at Mittersill Alpine Resort in Franconia, NH, where he developed a lifelong love of the mountains.

Through a generous gift of the Mellon family, he attended prep school at Dartmouth before attending Colorado A&M (now Colorado State University) on the GI bill and became a veterinarian. Subsequently, he was the first of two interns at the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School and obtained advance training in surgery. After a brief stint in Boulder, CO, as a solo practitioner, he was lured back East to the Animal Medical Center, which had just built a brand-new veterinary hospital seeing 95,000 patients/year in New York City.

In 1964, he returned to Penn Vet as faculty member and small animal surgeon doing research in bone healing and collagen with doctors at the School of Medicine and was the mentor to many vet students, interns, and residents. In 1971, he took the leap and started the first veterinary orthopedic referral private practice along the Mainline of Philadelphia. This practice thrived and came to encompass many veterinary specialties and spawned the current veterinary specialty practices we know today.

His professional memberships included the American Veterinary Medical Association, Eastern Veterinary Orthopedic Society, and Veterinary Orthopedic Society.

Treating many pets for orthopedic and neurological problems initially in NYC and later in Philadelphia, he developed the concept of wheelchairs for dogs to aid pets who became paralyzed in the hindlimbs secondarily to spinal cord injuries. Ultimately, he obtained two patents for K-9 Cart wheelchair, which are still sold to this day around the world and helping tens of thousands of pets. In 1991, he retired from private practice and moved to Oxford, MD, where he continued to sell pet wheelchairs and touched many owners and four-legged animals with the gift of mobility.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister (Ida McCann) and brother (Patrick Parkes).

He is survived by his wife and fellow veterinarian, Dara L Kraitchman; his daughter, Anne Thomas of Downingtown, PA; his grandson, Tristan Parkes; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Nick's life will be held on Saturday, March 11, 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Church in Oxford, MD, at 225 S. Morris Street, followed by a gathering with food and drink in the Parish Hall of the Church of the Holy Trinity in

Oxford located at 502 S. Morris Street at 12:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be sent to the DVM Class of 1957 Scholarship, Colorado State University Foundation, PO Box 1870, Fort Collins, CO 80522.

Previous Events

celebration of life

MAR 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Church
225 S Morris St.
Oxford, MD 21654

Tribute Wall



“ I had the honor to know Dr Parkes from working on his beautiful sailboat at the Philadelphia Seaplane Base. He was planning a trip around the world and I hope he got to do it since I lost touch with him.

John McCracken

John McCracken - February 29, 2024 at 12:48 PM



“ *Lincoln Parkes*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Dr. Parkes gave me a job through our high school program and I worked for him at the Veterinary Orthopedic Service in Paoli 49 years ago. I learned so much about animal care, his orthopedic healing skills, surgical prep and so much more. I will be forever grateful to him for the opportunity he gave me. it was a one in a million chance. I saw many dogs that he put back on their feet and those unable to walk, happily leave his office in a K-9 cart! He truly had a gift. My special sympathies to Anne and his family. Thank you, Dr. Parkes. May you be at peace. Susan (Cook) Sjostrom*



Susan Cook - October 23, 2023 at 05:40 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Lincoln Parkes.*



February 20, 2023 at 07:32 PM



“ *I am forever grateful to have met this man and gave my sweet Jazzy girl a new meaning of life. In 2015 Jazzy ruptured 5 of her discs in her back and was paralyzed, she was put on bed rest from February till July and came back great. She walks like the Toy Story dog but that's ok. I purchased a k-9 cart from Dr. Parkes and the most craziest thing is when I took her down to meet with him he coincidentally received one in the mail her size and just a few tweaks to it to fit her. When he put her in it for the first time it was miraculous, she new exactly what to do and took off running. I was so happy my girl had a new life, since covid my girl has been out of her cart walking on her own but I still have it and will use it when she needs it. He will be missed. Prayers to the family. I'm grateful for all he did for my sweet girl. May God bless him. Jazzy and Betty Jo Embert*



Betty Jo Embert - February 16, 2023 at 10:29 AM

SC

“ Another great member of the class of '57 has left this earth. His wheelchair legacy will live on!
It was so good to see him and meet Dara at the reunion. Though I was a widow at the time, I have been with the group since the beginning and have been made to feel very welcome. Stay connected, Dara.

Shirley Conger - February 14, 2023 at 09:45 AM