

Clayton Hanson – BS 1959 Pharmacy

Age 86 – Boise, ID

Clayton Hanson was born May 15th, 1937 in Dickinson, North Dakota to parents Ruth and Clayton Hanson. He passed away at age 86 on August 3rd, 2023 in Boise, Idaho. He attended rural schools in Belfield, North Dakota where he met his wife, Lucy. During high school, he was an active member of 4-H. He won many awards for showing registered Herford cattle and gardening.

After high school, Clayton went on to pursue his education. He attended North Dakota State University and graduated with a Bachelors in Civil Engineering in 1959. A week after graduation, he married Lucy on June 8th. During his time at NDSU, he was a member of ROTC and upon graduation was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force working as a meteorologist. He spent three years in the Air Force. After his time in the military, he went on to get his masters at the University of Idaho in Civil Engineering in 1963. Prior to graduation in January of 1963, they welcomed their first child, Barry. The family then moved to Newell, South Dakota for three years, where he worked for the United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS). They then moved to Logan, Utah for Clayton to work toward his Ph.D. Shortly after they got to Utah in September of 1966, they welcomed their second child, Charee.

In December of 1967, they moved to Rapid City, South Dakota for five years to do research for his Ph.D. and Clayton continued working for the USDA-ARS. During their time in Rapid City, they welcomed their third child, Heather, in March of 1970. Clayton then graduated with his Ph.D. from Utah State University in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in Hydrology in 1973.

After Clayton completed his education, the family moved to Boise, Idaho and bought the house they still live in. He continued to work for USDA-ARS for a total of 41 years. During his time at the USDA-ARS, he had over 100 professional publications. Upon retirement, Clayton and Lucy enjoyed many different pastimes. They extensively traveled with friends and family. Their favorite trip was their Danube River Cruise for their 50th wedding anniversary. They also never missed one of their grandchildren's activities. Whether that was soccer or tennis matches, theater or band performances, or the many graduations they were able to attend, their family always came first. Clayton also enjoyed volunteering with the Gem State Kiwanis Club and remained a long-time member of Hillview United Methodist Church.

Clayton is survived by his loving wife of 64 years Lucy, son Barry (Keri) of Boise, ID, daughter Charee VanOrder (Greg) of Boise, ID, daughter Heather Fisher (Gary) of Portland, OR, seven wonderful grandchildren, sister Cleone Sparks of Eugene, OR, and multiple nieces and nephews.

The memorial service will be Wednesday, August 9th at 11 AM at Hillview United Methodist Church, 8525 W. Ustick Rd. Boise, ID 83704.

Interment will be at the Veteran's Terrace Lawn Memorial Gardens.