Dr. Everett V. Richardson

Dr. E.V. Richardson was born on January 5, 1924, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska to Tom and Jean Richardson and died at the age of 90 on August 6, 2013. The Everett and Spurgeon families of Scottsbluff were instrumental in his upbringing. Following his graduation from Scottsbluff High School in 1941, Everett served in the army and he was wounded at the Battle of the Bulge. On a visit to the U.S.S. Missouri, Everett reflected that the Missouri held a special place in his heart because if the Japanese hadn’t signed the surrender on its decks, he was due to be sent to the Pacific Theater.

Following the war, Everett enrolled at Colorado A&M. It was there that he met his wife, Billie Ann Kleckner (February 8, 1927 – July 18, 2013) forming a partnership that spanned over 65 years.

Speaking as the CSU Honor Alum, he told how Colorado A&M greeted the returning GIs by setting up housing in the Field House – there not being enough housing on campus or in Fort Collins to handle the influx of students after the war. Everett was fiercely loyal to Colorado State University. He holds a B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. from CSU in Civil Engineering.

In his 63+ years as an expert in bridge scour, irrigation, open channel flow, alluvial flow, on-farm water management, and international development, Everett traveled the world working on projects in Pakistan, Venezuela, Egypt, India, and Bangladesh. His career included 17 years with the Water Division of the U.S. Geologic Survey, 25 years a Professor of Civil Engineering and administrator for the Engineering Research Center at CSU, and 21 years as a senior associate at Ayres Associates. Dr. Richardson was a Fellow ASCE, Honorary Diplomat Engineering Water Resources and received the Hans Albert Einstein Award.

One especially notable project was when the National Academy of Science asked him to go to Egypt with a team of other scientists to show the United State’s sincerity to Egypt after presidents Carter and Sadat formulated the US-Egypt accords. Egypt was just starting their Irrigation Water Center and needed help. The Agency for International Development asked Everett to write a proposal and put together a team to work with Egypt on this need. AID funded 2 projects for a total of $27 million, the largest grant in CSU’s history.
He is survived by his daughter Gail Frick (husband Dave) of Fort Collins, son Dr. Tom Richardson (wife Barbara) of Spokane, Washington, and son Dr. Jerry Richardson (wife Beth) of Overland Park, Kansas. He was very proud of all his grandchildren: Don Frick (Kim), Anna Frick (Dustin Boyd), Dr. Erin Lane (Jeff), Sara Richardson, Molly Richardson, Hillary Bird (Dan), and Cassie Baird (Bo). He especially enjoyed fist bumps with great-grandson Owen Frick.

Everett and Billie’s family would like to acknowledge the special care and support they have received from Pathway’s Hospice and Visiting Angel’s caregivers, especially Barb, Wanda, Amanda, Rose and Maria.

His wife, Billie preceded him in death by three weeks. Thus a joint memorial service celebrating their lives will take place August 30, 2013, 10 a.m. at Allnut Funeral Home, 650 West Drake, Fort Collins, Colorado.

In lieu of flowers; the family requests that donations be made to either the Everett V. and Billie K. Richardson scholarship Endowment at Colorado State University, the “Hesperus Girls +1 Scholarship” at Fort Lewis College, or Pathways Hospice.

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