

Dr. Newton E. Kendig — Memories from the Community

Portrait of a Humanitarian

It was so sudden, so hard to understand,
This passing of a kind and understanding man,
Many memories come flooding back through time,
Of campaign trips, first his then mine,
Rides through Lancaster County and cups of coffee,
Telephone calls and conversations between him and me,
All worthwhile, Victory- was his and then mine.
He would heed the call of the siren's wail,
In the middle of the night or in driving rain,
But he couldn't do for himself what he did for others,
Heal the pain.
He'd mumble and you couldn't understand half of what he had to say,
But it didn't matter, you felt better anyway.
He took time to laugh, play a joke, talk to a child, counsel a friend, or plant a rose,
How many times did he go beyond the call of duty?
No one knows.
He loved his town, his friends, his children, his wife,
But most of all he loved life.
He gave life, he saved life.
And what do I remember most?
The little things I guess,
He gave me the ultimate gift- himself.
I owe him much, a debt I cannot repay, and
now too quickly he's gone away.
And now the story's at an end, but not for me,
I'll remember him, because you see,
He was my friend.
Jim Gingrich

Friends

by Dick and Jean Gerberich
"A friend in need is a friend in deed," and a true friend he was- Memories of "Newt" go back many years. He and I grew up together- we reminisced many times about the days at Mount Joy High School. We went our separate ways after graduation but our "roots" brought us back to Mount Joy. Our families have been close personal friends over the years and our children have shared their young years with each other. Looking back over these beautiful times we know that we will hold these memories in our hearts for years to come.

Ambulance Committee by Bill Martin

6-5-3-1-4-3-6
"Dr. Kendig's."
"Is Doc there? This is Bill from the ambulance."
"Hold a minute, I'll get him."
Soon the phone rattles and "You guys sure know when to call."
"I was in the bathtub. You have your patients well trained!" he jokes.
His voice is more serious now. "Okay. What do you have?"
"We have a possible coronary right outside of town on the Manheim-Mount Joy Road--- You'll see us. Can you come right out?"
"Yes. Be right out."
Three minutes later, Dr. Kendig is on the scene. We fill him in on the details. He gives the patient something for pain and nausea and says "move it!"
Dr. Kendig was always willing and ready to come help the ambulance crew stabilize a patient before transporting to the hospital. He was very active in ambulance work and always supported the service. In the last year, Dr. Kendig, along with Dr. Newman, helped set up the first coronary care ambulance in Mount Joy. Through him equipment, procedures and crew cooperation for coronary care was achieved. He owned 2 ambulances in the area. Sometimes he'd be on the scene of an accident two or three minutes after receiving the call. By the time we arrived 5 minutes later, he would have the situation surveyed and say jokingly, "What's the matter, can't you run that thing any faster?" Doc didn't beat around the bush. If he didn't like something on a call he'd let you know, either on the scene or back in the firehouse. He was always full of compliments when a job was well done. Above all, he had a positive attitude and could always brighten a serious situation with his good sense of humor. Needless to say, the ambulance service and community, as a whole, will miss the tireless services of their dedicated doctor and friend, Newton E. Kendig.

Testimonial by Rev. W. Richard Kohler

Dr. Kendig epitomized for me Jesus' concept of self-giving love. He did not talk about faith, he lived it out each day by doing good in countless ways. He never spared himself or refused his service to anyone, anywhere, at any time. Dr. Kendig lived in deeds, not years. Our community will miss him and will forever be indebted to him.

Memories from his Nurse

To write about an employer is very easy for some people. But for me, it is almost an impossibility. I had the honor and good fortune to work next to Dr. Kendig for 11½ years. During this time he taught me all the traits he possessed- compassion, patience, understanding, respect and above all- love for all people. His role as a physician took priority over all the things most of us hold dear- his family, his health and his own well-being. He worked some days without any sleep, because he'd been out of bed all night for a delivery and yet was still able to face all the patients and their problems the next day. His patient's trials and tribulations were his, as well. If a patient of his died, he would say, "Another part of me is gone, too." He crammed into his short 49 years what most of us don't accomplish in 70 or 80 years. But, it took its toll eventually. His health had been bad for some time and yet none of us knew how much he suffered. But he continued to think about all those who depended on him and needed him. He lived life to its fullest and I am sure enjoyed and loved every minute of it. The void left in my life as well as that of his family, patients and friends will be hard to fill, however the memories of him will sustain us. I am grateful God gave me the privilege of serving with him and for him. To truly know him was to love him.

Mary E. Hoffmaster, R.N.

Friends

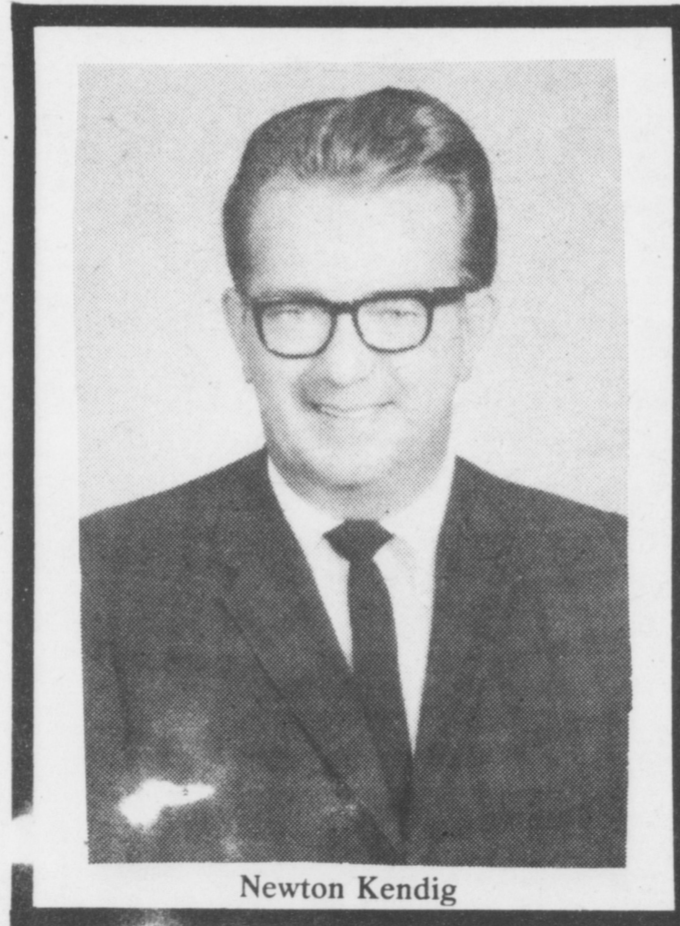
The Joe Germer Family

To a friend who gave his all to make our life a more beautiful place in which to live: "It was hard to say good-bye to you..... Like reading a good book, we were reluctant to finish the last page, But the memories of you are written well within our lives. They are the things that can't be taken from us. We have set aside a book for them on our private shelf."

James W. Zarfoss family

Our memories of Doc,
Could fill a giant block,
Whenever needed always there,
No matter how, when, or where.
He truly gave himself to others,
May he rest in peace among his brothers.
One of the best friends our family has ever had.

The Susquehanna Times
is grateful to Jim and
Sandy Gingrich for prepar-
ing this memorial.



Newton Kendig

From the Children

Roxann Lee Shoop, age 8

Even though I didn't like to go see Dr. Kendig when I was sick, because of the shots he gave me, I still loved him very much. I even told him so in the notes and Valentines I gave him, and he would pat me on the back, and say I love you too Roxy. I will miss him very much.

Shawn Newton Maxwell

I am very happy that I was named after Dr. Kendig. He was a great friend and doctor, always there when he was needed.

Angie Calaman, age 8

Dr. Kendig to me was a great doctor. He helped me whenever I needed him. Last year one night I was very sick and he got out of bed at 12:30 a.m. to help me. He was a kind and good man and I never left his office without a hug and a kiss from him. The night he passed away, I got down on my knees and prayed that he would go to Heaven, because I loved him. My whole family loved him and I am going to miss him. I'm sorry he's gone.

Jerry Sheetz

"I loved that man."

Police Department

Bruce Kline, Chief of Police

He was always there when needed! His service to the Police Department will be missed.

Mount Joy Fire Department

Frank Good

Looking back over the years we could always count on Dr. Kendig to take care of the men on large fire scenes. I can even recall on an occasion of the Grey Iron fire several years ago where Dr. Kendig was right up with us on the lines inside the building. Dr. Kendig will always have a place in the hearts of the Friendship Fire Co. #1

Midget Football — by Gary Maxwell

Dr. Kendig was one of the first in Midget Football. He served as team doctor for many years. I may now tell you what he did for the Donegal Braves and I think for a few other teams and players in our league. Doc would not charge a player for a physical exam to play. If a player was injured he would collect insurance money. At the end of the season, the money would be returned to the team. The Red Rose Midget Football League was formed in 1961, same year as the Donegal Braves. Doc was there also. He was one of the 3 oldest members; Doc Kendig, Leon Heller and myself. He was a great doctor, father, citizen and, above all, a Sportsman.

Patients....

Ruth Madara

After twenty as a doctor and friend to my family, there will never be another person, as dedicated to helping others as Dr. Kendig was. Our memories of him will last forever.

Larry Coover family

He was a family doctor, he was always there when you needed him. It will be impossible to replace him. You can't name all the little things, but these are the things that counted.

Ken Roth

Dr. Kendig was not only my doctor and business partner but also a good friend and a great inspiration in my life.

**HIS LEGACY IS A SIMPLE, BUT POWERFUL ONE,
THE ONLY THING THAT GIVES
ETERNAL HOPE OR PEACE,
"LOVE YOUR FELLOW MAN"**