

Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr

July 13, 1928 - May 19, 2018

A Celebration of Life service will be held for Dr. Everett D. Wilson at the Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home on Saturday, 26 May 2018 at 2 pm. An immediate family only viewing will occur at the funeral home beginning at 1pm. He passed away on Saturday, 19 May in Conroe, Texas with family by his side.

Dr. Wilson was born on a farm near Perrysville, IN on July 13, 1928 to Clarence Wilson and Maxine Perry Wilson. He graduated from Perrysville High School in 1946 with letters in basketball and an academic scholarship to Indiana University. In 1947 he transferred to Indiana State University where he completed his Bachelor of Science in 1950 and earned a Master of Science in 1951.

Dr. Wilson entered the US Navy Officer Candidate School at Newport, Rhode Island in July 1942 and was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy Reserve on 23 October 1952. He went on to serve three years on active duty during the Korean War, then transferred to the reserves until his retirement in 1978 after 26-years of service at the rank of Commander. His most significant assignment was on the USS Navarro where he served at sea for fourteen months.

Upon his release from active duty Dr. Wilson started pursuing his passion as a

teacher and was employed as a science teacher and basketball coach at his high school in Perrysville, Indiana. He worked for a short time for the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation as a process control supervisor in charge of chemical and physical laboratories. He left the position in 1957 to further his education, entering Purdue University. In 1960 he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Endocrine Physiology and a minor in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. He then taught and conducted research at Southern Illinois University. In 1961, he was awarded a NATO post-doctoral fellowship working with Dr. C.R. Austin at the National Medical Research Institute, Mill Hill, England, and Cambridge University Cambridge, England.

Dr. Wilson was hired as an associate professor of Biology at Sam Houston State College in 1962 and was given a merit promotion to full professor in 1964. He was named as the first Dean of the College of Science in 1965 and held the position until 1979, moving back into the Biology Department at that time as a full time faculty member. During his time as Dean, the College became the University and grew from 4,200 to 10,000 students, adding three new science programs - Environmental Science, Geoscience and Computer Science. Under Dean Wilson's leadership the College of Science concentrated on increasing the number of faculty having doctorates, bringing in new faculty from throughout the United States.

Dr. Wilson was an active researcher in mammalian reproductive biology, publishing numerous articles in scientific journals. He was heavily involved in graduate student mentoring and research, directing the theses of 21 Master's degree students. In the early 60s, Dr. Wilson was awarded a three-year grant in reproductive biology from the National Institute of Health to support his research and that of his students.

Dr. Wilson taught courses from freshman to graduate level and was a committed and enthusiastic teacher. He was instrumental in establishing

several off-campus travel courses, to London and to Belize, which were well received by students.

During his career, Dr. Wilson provided significant professional services off-campus. On the national level, Dr. Wilson took a one-year leave of absence in 1972 to become the Chief of the Reproduction Grants Branch of the Population Center at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland where he was able to stimulate much needed university support for research in mammalian reproduction. At the state level, Dr. Wilson served from 1964 to 1980 on the Texas State Board of Examiners in the Basic Sciences and as President in 1972. This board is responsible for testing Texas medical and chiropractic students in the basic sciences. During the seventies, Dr. Wilson served as Secretary of the Texas Academy of Sciences, helping the Academy move to a more robust position, professionally and financially. At the local level Dr. Wilson was a willing volunteer to judge student projects at school science fairs, providing scores of budding scientists with encouragement and constructive reviews of their projects. For his many years of service to the university and to the scientific community, Dr. Wilson was awarded the University's Excellence in Service Award in 2006. He used the proceeds from this award to establish a scholarship in his father's name, the Clarence Wilson International Scholarship Fund.

Dr. Wilson had a long list of accomplishments during his career, but perhaps the most inspiring is the commitment he had to educating young people who could not otherwise afford college. He recruited and furnished partial or all tuition, transportation, room and board for 15 students from the United States, Belize, Antigua, Mexico and Turkey.

Upon Dr. Wilson's retirement in 2006, he was awarded the University's highest honor for a retiring professor, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at

Sam Houston State University.

A significant change in Everett's life happened following a visit to Alaska some thirty odd years ago when he participated in the commercial fishing activities in Cook Inlet. After this initial visit he purchased a commercial fishing permit and began a series of uninterrupted summer migrations to the north where he fished for salmon and halibut. Even after his commercial operations stopped he continued to enjoy sport fishing for the various Alaskan species but his passion developed for catching halibut. He developed many long-lasting friendships and experienced the grandeur and biological productivity of Alaska. Just as summer in Alaska was evident by the arrival of the ducks, geese and salmon it was also announced by the arrival of Everett on the Kenai Peninsula. In the early years he arrived in a van loaded with students from Sam Houston who were introduced to a way of life and culture vastly different from their east Texas homes. They would work in the "canneries" and learn life lessons that would be carried back to Texas and last a lifetime. His last visit was in the summer of 2017.

Dr. Wilson was preceded in death by his parents, and a sister, Martha Pickering Stout. He is survived by a son, Everett Dale Wilson, Jr and daughters Mary Denise Wilson, Deonne Kay (Wilson) Niederhauser and husband Chris, D'Anne Lynne Wilson, Charlotte Gaye Ellis and Varell Flowers; Grandchildren Ashley, Caleb, Joshua, Lindsey, Hanna, Christopher, Caylon, and Emily; and six great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family asks donations be made to the Everett Wilson Biology Endowment Fund at Sam Houston State University or the United Services Organization (USO).

Cemetery Details

Lower Mound Cemetery

Covington, IN

Previous Events

CELBERATION OF LIFE

MAY **26**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville
1700 Normal Park Dr.
Huntsville, TX 77340
(936) 291-7300
belinda@shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dr. Wilson was one of the best teachers I ever had at Sam. I know he made a great impact to many students. God bless his family and friends, and they will be in my prayers.*
Lora and Victoria Dollar

Lora and Victoria Dollar - June 08, 2018 at 05:39 PM



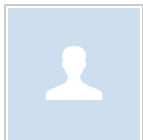
“ *Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. The Choate Family*

Janice Choate - May 28, 2018 at 11:59 AM



“ *Dr. Wilson was new to Sam Houston as was I in 1962. He and Dr. Yoes were mentors to me and I worked for Dr. Wilson at one point. He was a wonderful lecturer and made biology so clear and fascinating. I remember his children well and send them my condolences. He will be missed.*

Lynda Voswinkel Boehm - May 26, 2018 at 09:53 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr.*



May 24, 2018 at 10:45 AM



“ *My daughter, Heather Wiley Christian, graduated with a BS in Biology & Chemistry at SHSU. Then, she received her Masters as a Physician Assistant Certified at UT Galveston. Dr. Wilson was one of her favorites at SHSU. Condolence to his family. He left behind a legacy in a lot of students.*

Mellicent Wiley - May 24, 2018 at 08:40 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr.*



May 22, 2018 at 02:28 PM



“ *Russell Keller purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr.*



Russell Keller - May 22, 2018 at 10:19 AM



“ *A great teacher and a great guy. RIP Everett. He was wonderful with the students from Belize. I took groups from FUMC-Conroe to Belize to work on schools and would run across Everett there in the summer where he taught an off campus class each year.*

David Henderson - May 21, 2018 at 10:16 PM

MH

“ Terry had just had heart surgery and couldn't drive, so he decided to stay home when I decided to go get a coffee at the gas station on possum walk. I got my coffee and returned to my car just as it was starting to rain. My car would not start. I opened the hood and a young man offered to help because he had some jumper cables. We tried, without results to start the car. I called Terry who said he would call Everett and he will come help you. Sure enough Everett arrived at the gas station in a heavy rain. Everett and the young man with the jumper cables still could not start the car. Everett knew I must need a new battery. He drove me to Walmart, showed me what battery to buy, drove me back to my stranded car, put the new battery in my car and started my car so I could go home. All of this in the pouring rain. My coffee was cold---but what an "ACT OF INCREDIBLE KINDNESS" from Everett, my forever friend.

Mary Lee Hoage

Mary Lee Hoage - May 21, 2018 at 07:11 PM

TH

“ I met Everett at the Houston Airport in 1967 when I came to interview for a teaching position in the SHSU Biology Dept. He was warm and welcoming and made me feel relaxed even though this was a job interview. He took me to Jimmie Long's house where I would stay and then escorted me to the Biology Department where I was introduced to the faculty and shown where the presentation on honeybees would be held. After the presentation the next day, Everett made sure I was comfortable and had the equipment I needed. His first statement after the presentation was that if I wanted to be a Bearkat, all I had to do was say yes. 51 years later I am still in the neighborhood and Everett is still my friend. He took pride in helping people and I have appreciated his assistance throughout my association with SHSU. Whenever we were back in town, he always had a place for us to stay. He allowed us to travel with him to Belize and various field trips around the country, especially trips to gulf beaches. In all of this time, he was always upbeat, helpful, cheerful and most of all a friend. I sincerely miss him.

Terry Hoage

Terry Hoage - May 21, 2018 at 06:50 PM

OD

“ I was one of the Belizeans who Doc embraced. I met Doc and Varell through Sian and I was privy to some Sunday morning breakfasts which were the best. Even after my graduation from Sam Houston Doc welcomed me into his home for my mini vacations from Belize. Doc has always been a guiding light and a good listener. We had many conversations and a few Astros games on tv. Doc was such a very kind person who was compassionate and I can see why many students gravitated to him. RIP Doc.

Olivia Dakers - May 21, 2018 at 04:49 PM

DN

“ Everett was an amazing person. He was my friend and mentor. I will always remember Sunday breakfasts at his house. He made the best biscuits and gravy. He was always upbeat and helped me through some tough times in my life. I loved having coffee in his office every morning to start my work day. He was always full of stories and information he had read in the paper. He loved to talk about his trips to Alaska and Belize. We had some great discussions. I will miss you my friend. I am so grateful to have been part of your life. Rest in Peace.

Diane Neudorf - May 21, 2018 at 03:10 PM

SA

“ My memories of Doc are many. For that, I am forever thankful. He was my teacher, mentor, practically my second Dad. He challenged me a lot, pushed me to succeed when I was sure I couldn't. He would say "come on, we got to make you marketable" as he signed me up for the most difficult courses/conferences/research. We travelled all over East Texas to conferences where he taught me the location of every Dairy Queen! I spent 6 years living at the Wilson Ranch and every time I returned, it felt like home. Thank you, Dr. Wilson. I could not be who I am today had you not been placed in my life. I hope to some day pay it forward, somehow.

Sian Escobar August - May 21, 2018 at 02:03 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Everett Dale Wilson Sr.



May 21, 2018 at 10:48 AM