



Dwight Edgar Dyer

May 20, 1931 - December 5, 2019

Dwight Edgar Dyer passed away peacefully at Leewood Healthcare Center in Annandale, Virginia on December 5, 2019 at the age of 88. Dwight was born in San Diego, CA in 1931. While growing up he lived in several different cities in California. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1948 and served 4 years which included combat service in Korea. He attended Shasta College in Redding, California and in 1957 graduated with a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Nevada in Reno. In 1956, he married his wife, the former Nancy Jayne Elliott.

Dwight began a career in journalism in 1958 as the Night Editor for the Associated Press in San Francisco and moved back to Nevada in 1959 as the Nevada Correspondent for the Associated Press in Reno and Carson City. From 1962 to 1964 he was the News Director and Evening News Anchor at KCRL TV in Reno, Nevada.

In 1964, he began a long career in the United States Senate serving as Press Secretary to Senator Alan Bible. From 1968 to 1972 he was Legislative Assistant to Senator Alan Bible. From 1972 to 1981 he served on the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee, first as Staff Director on the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee under the Chairmanship of Senator Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia. From 1981 to 1986 he served as Staff Director on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee under the Chairmanship of Senator

Ted Stevens of Alaska. Following his retirement from the Senate, he founded and ran a consulting firm.

In retirement, Dwight and Nancy traveled and resided over the years in Maryland, Florida, West Virginia, South Carolina and Virginia.

Dwight was preceded in death by his wife Nancy Dyer in 2008. He is survived by daughter Cherie Cleland of Bradenton, FL and her husband Doug, and sons Alan Dyer of St. Petersburg, FL and Curtis Dyer of Alexandria, VA and his wife Teresa, grandchildren Sean Cleland of Jacksonville, FL and his wife Lee-Ann, Marshall Dyer of South Lake Tahoe, CA and his wife Becca, Brittany Dyer of North Fork, CA and her husband Gilbert, greatgrandchildren Nicholas Cleland, Nathan Cleland and his wife Danielle, and Keeley Cleland of Jacksonville, FL.

As many of you know, Dwight suffered from Alzheimer's Disease and in an effort to further research on the disease, following his death, he made an anatomical donation to the Georgetown University Medical Center Memory Disorders Program.

The family respects Dwight's wishes to not hold a formal memorial ceremony and that donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to your personal charity of choice.

We welcome any memories and photos you might like to share about Dwight here on the Jefferson Funeral Chapel website.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dwight Edgar Dyer*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *Papa or Dwight, as many people know him was a wonderful man. I saw a lot more of him in my younger years than older. Papa was so energetic and happy all of the time that I knew him. He always had a lesson he could teach and something he could show about the task at hand. He was a very nice man with a lot of love to give. His funeral was a beautiful testament to his life and I am glad we could honor him in that way. Without even knowing me as an adult this man has helped my future to an enourmous degree with his generous gift and I am proud to call him my great Grandfather.*

Nicholas Cleland - October 28, 2020 at 05:55 PM

“ It is not difficult to write about my dad, Dwight Dyer. A great man with a multitude of great accomplishments and virtues. Many are already listed on this website.

Dwight enlisted in the Navy at a young age looking for a better life with a sense of adventure. After the Navy he began a life of hard work while also being driven to get a college education to ensure a better life. Dwight graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, with a major in journalism. All the while holding down multiple jobs to put himself through college. By the end of his last year of college he had accumulated a wife and three children to support. He graduated with a high academic average and a family.

Dwight never lost his moral compass, working hard and squeezing in time for adventure. For enjoyment he rode motorcycles, climbed mountains and rocks, sailed sloops, snow skied black diamond slopes, became a talented sketch artist, rode a mountain bike and traveled the world. Dwight had a very accomplished career.

My Dad had a brilliant mind and put it to good use. He loved children, animals and exercise. A few other favorites were a good martini, wild turkey, good wine and a good cigar. Dwight was always truthful, honest, ambitious, courteous and fun loving.

I can only think of one area where Dwight lacked perfection. PATIENCE. Dwight needed wings because driving in traffic (or even with just one jerk on the road) would challenge every ounce of his patience. As children in his car, we all learned the art of cussing very early in life.

A toast to my Dad. A life well lived, an example for us all. The world needs more Dwight Dyer's. (a thought from one of his grandsons, Sean) I hope there was not much traffic on the road to heaven. - Cherie Cleland



Cherie Cleland - January 08, 2020 at 08:12 PM

NM

“ *I only have fond memories of Dwight. Growing up, he and his wife, Nancy, always opened their house up to us kids and made us have a great time. I loved growing up with Brittany as a best friend and was fortunate to be a part of her family. Dwight was loved and will be missed.*

Nicole Myers - December 20, 2019 at 10:14 PM

GF

“ *Dwight Dyer was my boss and mentor when I moved to Nevada in January, 1962, as Associated Press (AP) capital correspondent. Dwight was a gifted journalist and a fine family man who served his country with distinction in the Navy and as a U.S. Senate staffer. My late wife Consuelo and I followed Dwight and Nancy to Washington, D.C. and spent many happy times with them through the years. They were admirable people and loyal friends for many years. My heartfelt condolences to the Dyer family. Guy W. Farmer, Carson City. NV*

Guy W. Farmer - December 15, 2019 at 01:39 PM

KA

“ *The Andrade's have such fond memories of spending time with Dwight and Nancy at their chalet in Snowshoe, West Virginia. Dwight was an avid skier, and bike rider amongst his other activities!*



Kim Andrade - December 15, 2019 at 11:45 AM



“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - December 13, 2019 at 02:45 PM