



Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS

September 17, 1922 - July 6, 2022

ADRIAN- Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y." Youngs, DDS, 99, of Adrian, died early Wednesday morning, July 6, 2022, at the Hospice of Lenawee Home.

Born September 17, 1922, in Adrian, he was the only child of Lawrence and Marjorie (Smith) Youngs.

After graduating from Flint Central High School, he continued his education at Albion College and Northwestern University Dental School. A proud Korean War Veteran, he served in the United States Army in the Dental Corps.

On August 2, 1947, he married Lela Bennett in New Haven, Michigan. Together they took numerous trips to Cape Cod and Mackinac Island, enjoyed over 50 years at their Devils Lake cottage, where he was Past Commodore of the Devil's Lake Yacht Club. D.Y. loved to water ski and continued to do so until the age of 90. Lela and he also enjoyed bike riding. Together they spent many years pedaling countless miles on their bicycles. Lela preceded him in death in July of 2017, just a few days shy of their 70th wedding anniversary.

D.Y. practiced dentistry in Adrian for 44 years. He was active in many professional organizations, serving as past president of the Jackson District Dental Society and as the President of the Michigan Dental Society, and was a member of the American College of Dentists. For many years he presented

dental clinics throughout the United States. Locally, he was a member of the Adrian Kiwanis Club, which honored him with the Hixon Fellow, a charter member of the Lenawee Civil War Round Table, and a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was a member of Adrian Planning Commission and served on several boards including the Adrian Chamber of Commerce, Jr. Achievement, and Lenawee County Historical Society. A true Historian, he had life-long interest in both local and Civil War history which he shared during presentations for local organizations. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Adrian.

Surviving are his children: Kristin (Dane) Nelson, Terri (Michael) Clark and Richard "Mooch" (Jackie) Youngs; grandchildren: Brett (Anessa) Nelson, Andrew Nelson, Lauren (Luke) Kennard, Sarah (Joanie Denby) Clark, Melissa (Justin) Fischer, Laura (Ryan) Symington, Liz Clark, Ian Youngs and Johnny Youngs; and great-grandchildren: Jack and Lillian Fischer, Bennett, Harrison, and Quinn Kennard, and Annika and Katja Nelson.

D.Y. was preceded in death by his parents, and his beloved wife, Lela.

Funeral services for D.Y. will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 9, 2022 at the First Presbyterian Church of Adrian with the Revs. Dean and Ellen McGormley officiating. Burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, where military honors will be conducted by Annis Flint Post #1584 and the American Legion Post #97. Visitation for D.Y. will take place on Friday, July 8, 2022 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian, and again on Saturday at the Presbyterian Church beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until the time of the service. The family strongly encourages those attending to please wear a mask.

The family suggests that memorial contributions to honor D.Y. be made to the First Presbyterian Church Adrian, Hospice of Lenawee, or the Lenawee County Historical Museum, an organization that D.Y. kept very near and dear

to his heart and was a charter member.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

East Siena Heights Drive
Adrian, MI 49221

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 8. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Visitation

JUL 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
156 E. Maumee Street
Adrian, MI

Funeral Service

JUL 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
156 E. Maumee Street
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Dr. Youngs was my dentist since childhood, wonderful caring man.*

Sally Bevier - July 12, 2022 at 08:12 AM

“ *DY: The Gift of a Friend*

I met DY in 2015 through the Adrian Kiwanis Club. So, haven't known him long. But some people just make an indelible impression on your life. DY was one those special people for me. I sat by DY at one of our Past President's dinners (2016?). He knew I had just become the club scrapbooker, and he shared with me that he was a scrapbooker, too! He asked me if I'd like to see his scrapbook collection! I took Olivia with me the first time I visited him to see his collection. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I was surprised to find that he really has scrapbooked his life in detail, starting in his childhood, college, career and his family life. He even saved every thank you note he received from any patient throughout his dental career!

I got to see the many photos of his family life, his vacations, his career milestones and his love of history. We bonded over scrapbooking and our mutual love of history. He asked me to present some of his favorite historical presentations, including his collection of local World War II veteran stories, his civil war stories and the Katherine Lee Bates story of writing "America the Beautiful". I took his notes and photos and recreated them into PowerPoint presentations for the Adrian Kiwanis Club and the Lenawee Historical Museum/Civil War Roundtable. He was pretty skeptical of this new electronic presentation format, stating he liked using the old slide projector. I tried explaining that PPT was a newer version of using "slides", just like the slide projector. He didn't believe me until he saw the finished product and finally pronounced it was okay to use! He also gave me advice on my delivery of the actual presentations, including ensuring my voice projected properly with ample and appropriate microphone usage!

DY and I had many adventures together. He was the busiest "nonagenarian" I know! He had quite a social life for someone in their 90's! One of our favorite pastimes was lunch together at the Governor Crosswell tearoom. We were disappointed it didn't reopen post-COVID. But we were very excited to learn recently that it will re-open soon! Other lunch venues included the Asian/Chinese Buffet, Red Lobster, Taco Tuesdays at the Highland Inn and the

Devil's Lake Yacht Club. We also spent many lunches at his house, often picking up pizza, sandwiches or his favorite Wendy's junior bacon cheeseburgers. Sometimes Sharon made lunch for us, or even breakfast. Often joining us were Travis, Olivia, Emily or Steve. DY never ate a lot, but he always made room for desserts! I picked up many Wendy's Frosties for us, too, over the years! Sometimes we just took a ride to visit an interesting historical site.

Listening to DY tell his life stories were interesting, informative, sometimes entertaining, and always endearing. After all, he had 99 years of material! He told me about growing up in the depression, going to Albion College and Northwestern University Dental School, his time in the US Army, meeting Lela, enjoying their family life together, and sharing great pride in his children and grandchildren. Listening to him to describe the love of his family and his fulfilling dental career, I always got the feeling his was a life well lived.

DY always thanked me for my calls, my visits and he often thanked Steve for sharing me with DY! Steve came to know DY well, too:) He often thanked me for being his friend, but really it was me who was truly blessed with his friendship. My life is better for knowing DY. I will miss him dearly.

*Rest in peace, dear friend,
Laura Schultz Pipis*

Laura Schultz Pipis - July 09, 2022 at 08:01 PM

SM

“*Dr. Youngs (DY) was a wonderful man. Our family has a long history as patients with DY and later Mooch and Jackie. DY was a member of the greatest generation. He was proud of his military service and being a veteran in the Adrian community. He gave of himself to his community with his membership in service organizations and his caring nature. My wife Sharon was his caregiver for many years. Dr. Youngs, you will be missed by many. As a fellow veteran, RIP comrade.*

Steve Meredith - July 09, 2022 at 09:27 AM

RC

“ Mrs. Lee Coffey and family send their condolences to the Dr. Richard Young's family for his passing. The Coffey family were not only long-time patients of "Doc" Youngs, but Lee and Louise were tenants of Dick and Lela as Dick's career in dentistry was just beginning and they remained very good friends throughout the years. May Lela and Richard be joined together once again as they rest-in-peace.

Rick Coffey - July 08, 2022 at 09:12 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.



July 08, 2022 at 07:32 PM

NB

“ This was taken at the Governor Cromwell Tea Room on Mrs Youngs 82 birthday!

My absolute favorite couple



Nancy Butchart - July 08, 2022 at 05:40 PM

BH

“ Dick was my mom's cousin (Margaret 'Meg' Wells (Fellows). Dick & Lela both were friendly, loving people. We got to see them at the Wells-Smock-Fellows reunion sometime ago. We had a cottage at Devils Lake and would visit Dick & his family at either of our cottages. Dick was our last living relative from the Era of all our parents. My heart goes out to all their children. -Barb (Fellows) Heideman
CHICAGO

Barb Fellows Heideman - July 08, 2022 at 05:37 PM

NB

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Dr. Young's passing . I just adored him and Lela and seeing them at the tea room .
My deepest sympathies to Kris and Dane and his entire family .
Nancy Butchart

Nancy Butchart - July 08, 2022 at 05:22 PM

TA

“ D.Y. was special friend and mentor to me. He was my dentist starting in 1965 until his retirement. He helped me in my decision to enter dentistry in which I've been actively involved for 50 years.
Rest in peace D.Y. with much love Tom Allen

Tom Allen - July 08, 2022 at 01:03 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.



July 08, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.*



July 08, 2022 at 11:34 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.*



July 08, 2022 at 11:06 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.*



July 08, 2022 at 10:11 AM



“ *It was truly a pleasure working with Dr. Youngs when he chaired the Michigan Dental Association's History Committee. He was so kind and patient with a fledgling association executive. He always made a point of inquiring about me when attending MDA functions over the years. A true gentleman. My condolences to the family; he spoke of you often. Grace DeShaw-Wilner*

Grace DeShaw-Wilner - July 08, 2022 at 09:21 AM

TF

“ The Hyatt HR Team Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.



The Hyatt HR Team Family - July 08, 2022 at 08:56 AM

TF

“ The Dove Family purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.



The Dove Family - July 07, 2022 at 09:10 PM

AN

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Anessa Nelson - July 07, 2022 at 11:25 AM

JH

“ I have very fond memories of Dr. Young's. He was my first Dentist and only Dentist until Mooch and Jackie joined the office. Such kind and caring people❤️ May you rest in peace Dr. Youngs🙏

JoDee Hartman - July 07, 2022 at 10:50 AM

DM

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to the family, for a life we'll lived. May Dr. Youngs, Rest in Peace.
With Our sympathy,
Garry and Darlene Morris

Darlene and Garry Morris - July 07, 2022 at 10:35 AM

WC

“ Dick allowed me to practice dentistry with him when I graduated from dental school in 1972. I am forever grateful to him for being a mentor, colleague and a wonderful friend up until his death just recently. He was the consummate role model to me and so many others. Sincerely. William R. Chase, D.D.S.

William Chase - July 07, 2022 at 10:19 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.



July 06, 2022 at 11:50 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Smith "D.Y" Youngs DDS.*



July 06, 2022 at 11:33 PM



“ *15 files added to the tribute wall*



Lauren Kennard - July 06, 2022 at 05:52 PM