

The National Perinatal Association Announces the Passing of Stanley N. Graven, MD

Kristy Love

The National Perinatal Association (NPA) is an interdisciplinary organization that strives to be a leading voice for perinatal care in the United States. Our diverse membership is comprised of healthcare providers, parents & caregivers, educators, and service providers, all driven by their desire to give voice to and support babies and families at risk across the country.

Members of the NPA write a regular peer-reviewed column in *Neonatology Today*.



“Stanley Norman Graven, aged 92, passed away on July 8, 2024, in Dallas, Oregon. Born on May 20, 1932, in Greene, Iowa, he dedicated his life to the medical field, specializing in neonatology.”

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Dr. Stanley N. Graven. In December 1977, Stan, along with his wife, Mavis, and Sister Jeanne Maurer, co-founded the National Perinatal Association. Our condolences go out to his family and our Perinatal Community.

Stanley Norman Graven, aged 92, passed away on July 8, 2024, in Dallas, Oregon. Born on May 20, 1932, in Greene, Iowa,

he dedicated his life to the medical field, specializing in neonatology. He was a beloved figure in both his professional and personal circles. Stanley's commitment to his faith, family, and the well-being of newborns and mothers marked his life's work.

He attended St. Olaf College and graduated from Wartburg College and the University of Iowa Medical School. His career was distinguished as a pioneer in developing neonatology and the regionalization of neonatal care. He received the Virginia Apgar Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics and numerous other awards. His professional achievements in child development were matched by the deep personal connections he forged with those he served and worked alongside.

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Stanley, a United States Air Force veteran, served from June 21, 1956, to July 25, 1964, bringing his medical expertise to the military community. His service was characterized by a dedication that mirrored his civilian career.

Stanley was a man of many interests, including building his lake cabin by hand in northern Minnesota with his wife, Mavis (with no electricity or power tools). He enjoyed fishing, hiking, blueberry picking, and boating with his children and grandchildren. He cherished these moments greatly, just as he loved traveling and cruising with his beloved wife, Mavis, and their children.

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He encouraged his children and grandchildren to embrace their gifts and strengths and flourish wherever they were led. Despite his busy professional career, he rarely missed events involving his children and grandchildren. He was in the front row for school plays, musicals, band concerts, choir concerts, sporting events, birthdays, weddings, and births. Mavis regularly received flowers, and he regularly took the kids to the YMCA to swim on Sundays to give her some quiet time for herself.

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He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Mavis Graven; children, Nadine, Kendall, and Douglas Graven; and grandchildren, Matthew, Bryndis, Tage, Ian, Maxwell, William, Alex, Katrina, Jessica, Janel, Jonas, Noah, and Ezra. He also leaves behind his great-grandson, Levi. Stanley was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Helen Graven; brothers, David and Lloyd Graven; and son, Michael Graven.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on September 28, 2024, at 1:00 PM at Valley Life Center Church in Dallas, Oregon. The service will also be available via live stream, allowing those from afar to celebrate Stanley's remarkable impact. His legacy of compassion, dedication, and love continues to inspire all who knew him. Feel free to share personal stories, photos, and well wishes for friends and family.

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Disclosure: The author has no conflicts of interests to disclose.

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