

MEMORIES OF THE EAGLE OPERA HOUSE BY Doc Crawley

The Eagle Opera House or Masonic Temple was the center of attraction during the 30's and 40's. It was the largest building in town with the exception of the Catholic Church and had the only gym or theatre around. The chairs were attached to boards with six to ten attached so that they could be moved to the side to provide an open space or left in rows like a theatre.

One of my earliest memories of the place was when they had a huge "home talent" show sponsored by W.L.S. and the National Barn Dance from Chicago. The first part of the show were all the school children performing from recitations, dances, singing, playing piano etc. I was about ten years old and acted as the master of ceremonies and introduced each act with clever reports. i/e "Come on Jean and tickle those keys." After an intermission the adults in the area performed. They had bales of straw around the stage and the performers all sat on them. I remember my grandfather John Wilton, John Skidmore, Charley Cruver and others up there along with John Marty. W.L.S. sent up some professional performers and there was a contest for the winning locals. A young woman from W.L.S. was the judge and she picked a handsome young man from Palmyra by the name of Thayer. Her choice was questioned by the people from Eagle.

At one time Eagle State Graded School, which was first through tenth graders, had a high school basketball team. My father Earl W. Crawley was the principal and coach. We played other state graded schools in Waukesha County such as Big Bend and North Lake. Once when the Von Ruden twins and the Cruver boys were in school, the team played Palmyra High School (which was a four year high school) and won. Palmyra would never play Eagle again.

Every year the sophomore class would put on a class play. My mother Eleanor Crawley would direct. Every member of the class would have to have a part and sometimes it was like putting square pegs in round holes. One Time Mary Lou Stead became so nervous before coming on stage she swallowed her smelling salts and became very ill. It was always a three act play and between acts grade school children would perform. One time we had a quartet of Don Jones, John Kalb, myself and someone else dressed in "black face" and singing a novelty song. Anyway at one point we were to pretend to cry and wipe our eyes. When we did this the makeup came off and the audience roared with delight.

In the spring it was the site of graduation exercises. There would be the eight grade and the tenth grade complete with Valedictorian and Salutatorian addresses along with the graduation speaker. The stage would be covered with lilacs, purple and white, along with the class motto and the odor was so sweet it almost made you sick.

Doc. Crawley

"We shall meet, but we shall miss him.
There will be one vacant Chair.
We shall linger to caress him
While we breathe our ev'ning prayer."

There is a vacant chair in our trombone section tonight.
Our beloved "Doc Crawley" has been called to the Lord's band in heaven.

A member of our band since it began, he supported us in many ways.
Doc played from his heart, he played sunshine.
He had a wealth of band music knowledge which he shared,
often in an amusing fashion.

He knew all the words to many of the pieces we played,
and happily sang them for us.

He was probably the only person who ever directed the UW-Madison
Marching Band with a bathroom plunger!

Always ready with a good story or joke,
Doc made practice sessions so much fun.

Devoted to our band, with Irish determination, he played at our last two
summer concerts back to back on a Sunday and Monday.

Doc and Olive, his wife of nearly 57 years, are also members of the
Fairhaven family. Olive was Director of Nursing for many years. They
were living at Prairie Village when he passed on.

We were honored to perform some of his favorite music at the
celebration of his life.

by Mickie Nelson

From: Jean Cisler <cislej@centurytel.net>
To: don4elaine@aol.com
Subject: Nightmare on Main Street
Date: Fri, Aug 27, 2010 11:36 pm

This newsletter is turning into a nightmare. I have to make so many changes, I may just start over. I'm sending a copy of Doc's obit. Except for the ending, I don't know what to leave out. It covers an entire page with no room for a picture. Right now there is something covering pages 2-9 completely, except for 1/3 of a page on page 4. And we don't have all the articles in yet. I hope no more come. I shortened Ryan's because he had a lot about the family- moving to Eagle, etc. which had nothing to do with Halloween, but Phil Hall's is pretty good and it's all about Halloween and I don't know what to eliminate. And you wanted to put something in also. Unless you can fit it on page one, I don't know where to go with it. I think I'll go to bed now. It's been an exhausting day- unexpected company-Harry's cousin, whom we see about every five years, a quick trip to Janesville, notifying my Quilt Guild-Olive was a member-and on and on. So Good Night-talk to you later. Jean

Attached Message

From: "Saved by Windows Internet Explorer 8"
Subject: Waukesha County Obituaries
Date: Fri, 27 Aug 2010 11:05:36 -0500

PALMYRA

John Earl 'Jack' 'Doc' Crawley

Nov. 5, 1929 – Aug. 25, 2010

John Earl "Jack" "Doc" Crawley died Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2010, at Fort Atkinson Memorial Hospital of pulmonary fibrosis. He died as he lived – surrounded by love.

Doc was born Nov. 5, 1929, to Eleanor (Wilton) and Earl H. Crawley in Ashland. He graduated from East Troy High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He earned his doctorate of veterinary medicine from Iowa State University.

Doc was a member of the ROTC at Iowa State. He served in the Air Force in Savannah, Ga., and for many years in the Air Force Reserve. He retired with the rank of major.

Upon completion of his Air Force active duty, Doc moved to Palmyra to begin his veterinary practice, which spanned over 50 years. His "COW DOC" license plates were a familiar and welcome site to farmers in three counties, and he cared for innumerable family pets from the clinic behind his house.

Doc loved Palmyra, and he put his heart and soul into making the community a better place to live and raise a family. He was a member of the Palmyra-Eagle School Board for nine years, including serving as president. He was an active member of Kiwanis for more than 40 years, and loved his involvement in providing Christmas baskets for families, and with their sponsored youth programs. He was a leader in working to help young people avoid alcohol and other drug abuse, and he helped establish the first AODA program at PEHS. He was a faithful member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and served on the parish council on multiple occasions.

Doc loved his family, and anyone who ever spoke to him was well aware of that. He is survived by his wife of nearly 57 years, Olive; his children, Kevin (finance Yvonne Bitticks-Maruniak), Kathleen (Timothy Dybevik), Ellen (Mark Thorn), Sara (Steve Poser), Colleen (Doug Schell), Dennis (Jane Pacheco), Ann (Jeff Gerner) and Patrick (Kerry Odell); and 16 adoring grandchildren,

Andrew, Robin and Joseph Dybevik, Elizabeth, Kathleen and Hannah Thorn, Samuel and Gabriel Poser, Lauren and Patrick Schell, Gavin and Kierra Crawley and Liam and Emmett Crawley. He is further survived by his brother, Gerald Crawley, who was also his partner in veterinary medicine and friend for his entire life; his brothers-inlaw, Patrick and Larry Curtin; and his sisters-inlaw, Mary Curtin, Dana Crawley and Carol Anchor.

He is preceded by his parents; his daughter-inlaw, Diana Paulina; and many brothers and sisters-in-law.

Doc loved to fish – in addition to special trips with his brother Jerry and fishing buddies, he enjoyed many hours of fishing at the Castle Rock and Pettenwell lakes with very special family and friends. Doc loved to play cards, and was a longtime member of the Dirty Old Men's Poker and Spannferkel Society. The group provided more than good company and cards. They also raised funds for many causes in the Palmyra-Eagle School District, including athletic field lights and band uniforms.

Doc loved his trombone music. He was a proud member of the University of Wisconsin Marching Band, and in his later years a very active member of the Palmyra Community Band. He was an inveterate story teller, and he had a joke for every occasion. Doc said he had three goals in life: to be a veterinarian, to marry a beautiful woman and raise a good family. He lived a long and happy life and endured his more recent health challenges with courage and grace in anticipation of his journey to heaven.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the staff at Fort Atkinson Memorial Hospital for their care of Doc and his family during the last several days of his life, as well as to the Rev. Jay Poster for his spiritual and moral support.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29, at Mealy's Funeral Home, 320 Main St., Palmyra. Visitation continues from 9 a.m. until the 11 a.m. Mass of Christian burial Monday, Aug. 30, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 919 W. Main St., Palmyra.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Doc's name may be made to the Palmyra-Eagle School District Memorial Foundation, St. Mary's Catholic Church or the Fairhaven Foundation.

For the online obituary and guest registry, go to www.hdlfuneralhomes.com. Mealy's Funeral Home in Palmyra, 495-2127, is assisting the family.

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PALMYRA

John Earl 'Jack' 'Doc' Crawley

WK. FREEMAN
MAY 1962.

PEOPLE-CRAWLEY, GERALD J.

May - 1962



(Freeman Staff Photo)

MAY BE FIRST — Gerald J. Crawley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crawley, Eagle Rt. 2, may be the nation's first veterinarian graduated in an honors program. The program at Iowa State university is for students with a B-plus scholastic average. Crawley is slated to graduate May

26. He is shown monitoring a dog's heart beat with an electrocardiograph. His project for the research program involves studying serum enzymes in dogs with induced cardiac changes. It is part of a Morris Animal foundation fellowship.

Community profile: Dr. John Crawley

THE ENTERPRISE August 14, 2003

Dr. John Crawley serves Palmyra and surrounding communities as a small animal and cow vet. This month marks his forty-eighth year as a veterinarian. His career started after eight years of college studies.

"When I was in high school, I was interested in animals and interested in medicine, and my grandparents said, 'Why don't you become a veterinarian? That way you'll get the best of both worlds.'"

Crawley decided he wanted to be a veterinarian and took the steps necessary to meet that goal. Crawley started at UW-Whitewater, transferring to UW-Madison in his second year.

In his words, "I met all the hurdles it took to get into vet school and have never been sorry that I did. I enjoy my profession."

Those hurdles included being misplaced into a premed program when he entered college. Crawley was a second semester junior before a professor asked him what he wanted to do. Crawley answered, and the professor replied, "You won't get into vet school with a premed degree! You need an agriculture degree."

His senior year at Madison, Crawley faced the daunting task of figuring out how to graduate with a degree in agriculture and get into vet school so he could fulfill his dream of becoming a veterinarian.

"Now I'm a first semester senior and my parents weren't going to wait

forever for me to finish. I didn't know whether I was going to get into vet school or not. I've got to get a degree. So the closest thing I could come up with was a degree in animal science."

Crawley laughs, "Now it's quite an attractive degree up there, but at that time practically nobody had a degree in animal science."

Crawley's determination paid off. With the permission of the dean of the College of Agriculture, he carried nineteen credits, took classes without taking the prerequisites, and even enrolled in two classes scheduled at the same time.

"I would go up there at night into the biochemistry department and do my lab work with no instructors around, because while they were having lab, I had another course." After all that, Crawley graduated from UW-Madison in 1951 with degree in agriculture. In spite of his heavy schedule, he earned honors level grades and went on to study veterinary medicine at Iowa State University.

Crawley met his wife, Olive, while attending UW-Madison. They dated while Olive attended nursing school a couple blocks from his apartment. When she completed nursing school, she moved back home with her parents.

They continued their romance long distance even after he moved to Iowa, and they were married in his



Dr. John Crawley

second year of vet school.

Crawley graduated from Iowa State in 1955 and was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the air force.

He and Olive moved to Montgomery, Ala., on the 13th day of August, 1955. Crawley remembers the move well.

"My wife was pregnant," Crawley said. "She was very pregnant-our first born."

Later that year, Crawley reported to Hunter Air Force base in Savannah, Ga., where he served as base veterinarian. His clients included sentry dogs and pets of the families living on the base.

In 1957 he moved his family, which by then included two children, to Palmyra where he set up a private

practice.

Born and raised in Eagle, his father was principal of the state graded school there, Crawley knew the Palmyra area well. His vet practice thrived.

Crawley remains close to his family of eight children and 15 grandchildren. Every year for the past 13 years, "Clan Crawley" has gathered for a family vacation, usually somewhere around the Dells. This year the group totaled 32.

Crawley says with "a little bit of tongue and cheek" that his wife raised the children "in spite of him."

"I was very busy with my vet practice," Crawley said. "I was working. I was in a solo practice, then a partnership with my brother, then a corporation. I put in long hours-six or seven days a week, eight to 10

hours a day."

In spite of this obvious devotion to animals and their care, Crawley states, "The thing that I'm most proud about is my family."

Crawley still practices in Palmyra four days a week. His schedule remains open and flexible.

At this point in his life, Crawley wants more time with his wife and family. He spends Friday through Sunday at a summer place.

He doesn't think this hurts his business much.

"The majority of the people who are my clients say, 'Doc, you've worked long and hard, you deserve it,'" Crawley said.

At 72, Crawley says, "I could've retired some time ago, believe me, but I enjoy the people. I enjoy what I do."

Halloween in Eagle in the 40,s and 50,s was probley much like all the other small towns in Wis. The kids soaped the windows on the stores and the school, put corn stocks around the bandstand in the village park and maybe moved some signs. There were three notable exceptions, One time the more ambitious put a backhouse on a empty flat car at the depot and it ended up in Janesville. Another time the village druggest J.J. Lorge sat in his palace back of the drugstore and the boys tipped it over and he was trapped inside. The the best I can remember was when Frank Bredenbach got even with a bunch of boys from Waukesha who came to do him problems. The Bredenbachs lived acroos the street from the Methoidist church with their four children, Bob, Rita, Jean and Helen. The two youngest girls attended Waukesha high school and were quite popular. Somehow Frank got word that he was going to have visitors and so he moved the backhouse ahead about three foot and when ehe boys went around to the back they fell into the pit. End of the story. but

Doc Crawley

People-Crawley,
Gerald
People

REMINISCING

OPEN UP AND SAY, 'MOO'

Farm background aided Crawley as vet

By **BRIAN HUBER**
Freeman Staff

TOWN OF VERNON – Jerry Crawley doesn't need to read "All Creatures Great and Small" or any of James Herriot's other books about life as a country veterinarian.

He lived it.

"Everything James Herriot wrote about, I did," he said. "Every instance he wrote about, I've been there."

Crawley grew up on a dairy farm in the town of Eagle, which gave him great hands-on experience working with calves and lambs. When not doing morning and evening chores before and after school, a farm kid in those days was active in 4-H projects, and did lots of sledding, skiing, skating and pond hockey in the winter. Summer-time meant baseball in a farmer's pasture, after a few natural obstacles were cleared.

"We had to move the cow pies before we started playing if you wanted to keep the ball relatively clean," he said.

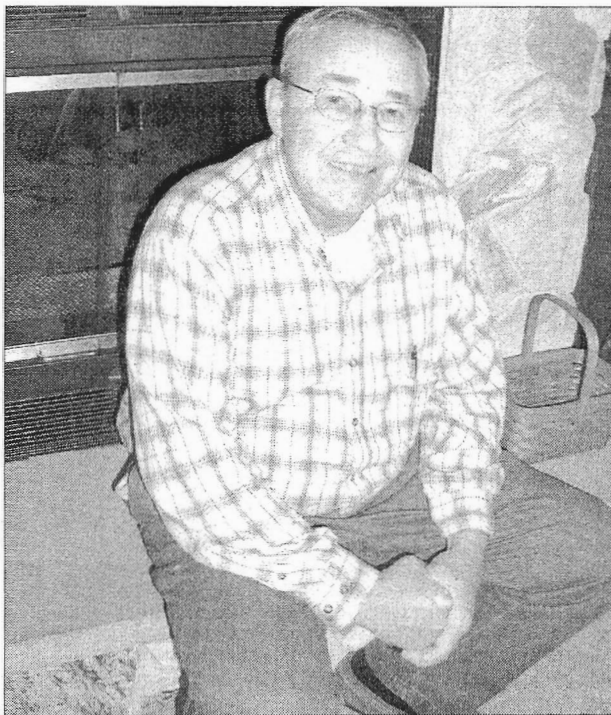
Crawley also recalled seeing his first movie at the Pix Theater in Waukesha, taking advantage of a rare trip to town during a show at the stock pavilion. That spring dairy show was so important that county students often got off school for it, Crawley said.

Crawley also remembers some of the characters in the Eagle area in his day, people like Charlie Ashton, the little old "man about town" who could frequently be seen in a top hat, and a woman known only as "Maude" on Main Street who had a talking crow.

After graduating high school in Palmyra and the University of Wisconsin-Madison with an agricultural education degree, Crawley earned a master's degree in veterinary physiology, finishing first in his class. He taught for seven months before entering the Army for two years, then partnered with his brother, John, a Palmyra veterinarian, to set up a practice in 1965. In 1968, Dr. John Phelps was added to the fold at Tri-County veterinary clinic, which served primarily farms in Waukesha, Jefferson and Walworth counties.

The clinic served about 400 large animals, about a third of them in the Mukwonago area.

That also meant emergency service, too, so Crawley frequently ventured out at all hours of the day – as many as five nights a week – to help birth a lamb or calf or tend to a sick or injured animal. One such call came from the Norman Pett farm south of North Prairie on



Brian Huber/Freeman Staff

Jerry Crawley teamed up with his brother, John, to establish a veterinary practice serving three counties. Crawley's veterinary career spanned five decades before his retirement in 2000.

Highway E, where a cow developed a calving problem and the calf had to be cut out in pieces to be removed. Crawley enlisted the help of Warren Pett, who was killed last March in a missionary trip to Uganda with his wife, Donna.

"Warren must have passed out about five times while I tried to get the calf out of that cow," Crawley said. "He was a big, tough kid, but he couldn't handle that."

Crawley also recalled an incident in the late 1970s where a 15-month-old heifer had cut one of her feet off in a feed auger. Crawley and his brother wanted to save her "no matter what," and they fashioned an artificial leg for her, not knowing if it would work.

"And she was around for three or four years and in the milking herd, all with a wooden leg," Crawley said.

By 1968, the number of small animals – pets – began increasing in Waukesha County, and Crawley saw them before or after barn and emergency calls. Crawley also helped set up the Emergency Veterinary Service on Bluemound Road in Waukesha before retiring in 2000.

As the farms dwindled, pets made up more and more of

Crawley's practice. Crawley said he got attached to a lot of his small-animal clients, getting to know each pet's personality along the way. It was part of the profession Crawley loved.

"I guess the major reward is you take an animal, a small or large animal, that is sick and make it well again," he said.

Crawley in 1999 donated 14 acres of land to the Mukwonago School District for the site of Rolling Hills Elementary School. Recalling the legal details that were worked out, Crawley said, "It's amazing how hard it was to give away land." Crawley also served on the Vernon town board for four years as well as the Mukwonago school board in the early 1970s.

Crawley since retirement has worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Franklin as a meat inspector, but will re-retire at the end of this month.

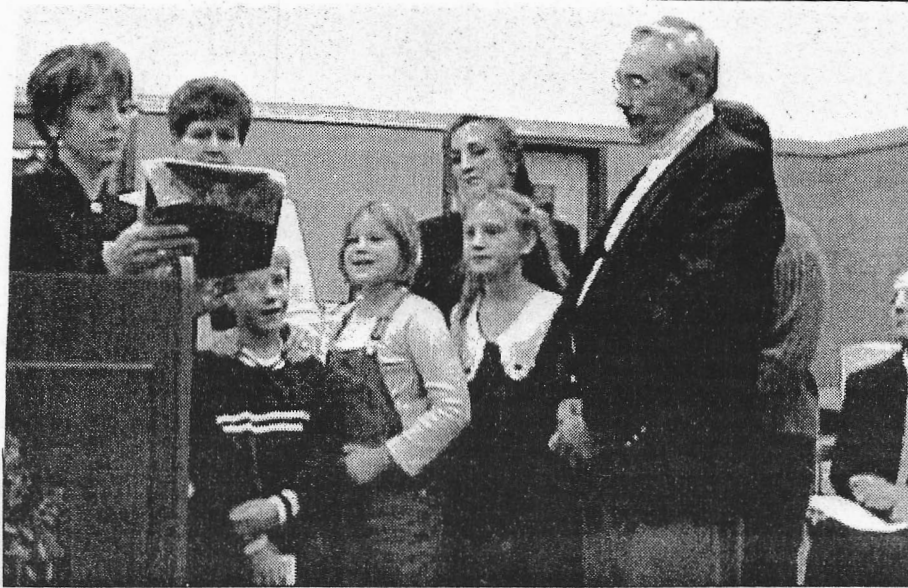
Due to the unpredictable hours of his work, Crawley said he credits his wife, Dana, who is the sister of his brother's wife, with raising their six kids almost "by herself." He looks forward to spending time with his family, which now includes nine grandchildren, and hobbies like fishing, reading and playing cards.

Mukwonago Chief

People -

Crawley, Gerald 10-11-2000

People



CRAWLEY HONORED ~ Mukwonago School Board President Jean Cruikshank presented a plaque of appreciation to Gerald Crawley (top photo) during a ceremony to dedicate the new Rolling Hills Elementary School on Sept. 24. Crawley donated the property for the school at Hwys. NN and Beulah Road. A cake made for the ceremony (bottom photo) celebrates the year the new school opened. (Photos submitted)

Crawley given WVMA 50-year award

The Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) gave John R. Crawley, DVM, a 50-year award at its 90th annual convention on Friday, Oct. 14.

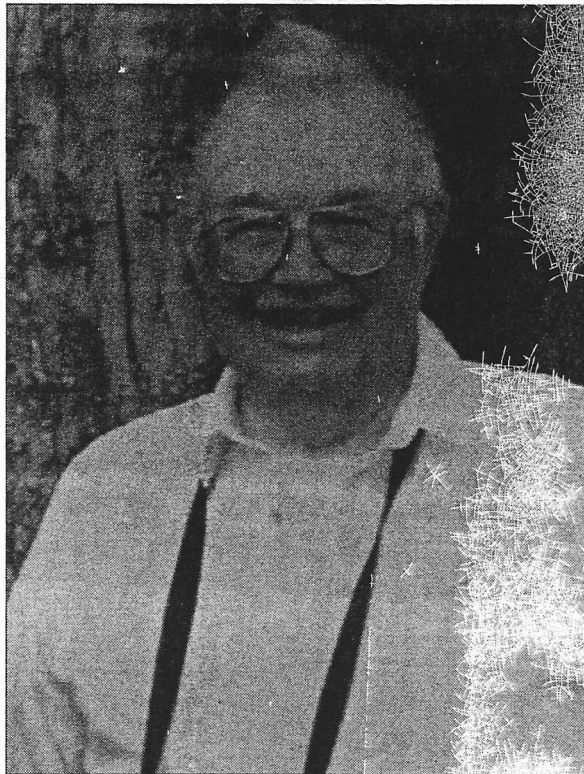
Dr. Crawley is a 1955 graduate of Iowa State University. He has been a member of WVMA since

1955. He practiced in Palmyra until his retirement in 2004.

When asked what is different today from when he first began his career, Crawley commented that in 1957 there were 76,000 head of dairy cattle in Waukesha County and only eight veterinar-

ians. Today there are 100 veterinarians and almost no dairy cattle.

The WVMA assists veterinarians in improving and protecting animal well-being, public health and agriculture. It serves more than 2,100 veterinarians.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Palmyra Eagle Enterprise

The Jack 'Doc' Crawley Memorial Golf Outing will be held July 30 at the Evergreen Golf Club, N6246 Highway 12 in Elkhorn.

'Doc' Crawley memorial golf outing set for July 30

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Palmyra will begin their Centennial Celebration with a golf outing in honor of Jack "Doc" Crawley on Saturday, July 30.

The event begins at 1 p.m. and will be held at the Evergreen Golf Club, located at, N6246 Highway 12, a mile north of Elkhorn.

Doc Crawley was a longtime member of the church and the community of Palmyra.

The cost of the outing is \$80 and includes: noon lunch, 18 holes of golf with green fees and cart, followed by a grilled steak dinner. Non-golfers/guests may attend the dinner for a cost for \$20. Dinner will be served between 5 and 6 p.m.

To sponsor a hole for \$50, donate a door prize, or register to participate in the golf outing, call Marv Manke at (414) 491-3001 after 6 p.m. or on the weekend, before July 21.

Heart and soul

Wife accepts service award on behalf of her late husband

By Ruth Ann Mueller
CORRESPONDENT

"Doc put his heart and soul into everything he did, his work, the school and the school board," Olive Crawley said while accepting the 2010 Community Service Award on behalf of her late husband, John (Jack) "Doc" Crawley.

The award was presented to Olive — on behalf of Doc — by James Omdoll and Paul Oehrke May 11. The award was to be given out during the public presentation ceremony at the Palmyra-Eagle Alumni Reunion in July. Crawley was at a family gathering at Castle Rock Lake and could not attend the ceremony.

Doc Crawley died Aug. 25, 2010 at Fort Memorial Hospital, before the committee was able to present him with the award.

Even though Crawley didn't graduate from Palmyra High School he was a very visible part of the community. Many who talked about him said he loved Palmyra and put his heart and soul into making the community a better place to live and raise a family.

Crawley's community service included being an active member of his church, a long-time member of the Kiwanis and playing as a trombonist in the Palmyra-Eagle Community Band.

His direct ties to the Palmyra schools began when one of his sons came home from high school and told his parents that some of the kids were smoking pot. According to family, Doc brought this issue to the attention of the school board, but nothing was done to resolve it, so he became involved in a venture that would take up much of his time for several years as he successfully ran for the school board and served as its president eight years.

Crawley was a known leader in working with young people to help them be aware of alcohol and drug abuse. It is said that his proudest accomplishment during that time was joining with Donna Kalnes, principal of Eagle Elementary School at that time, to initiate an Anti Drug Program as well as add two buildings to the school system.

Crawley graduated from Iowa State University in 1955 as a Doctor



RUTH ANN MUELLER Palmyra-Eagle Enterprise

Olive Crawley, center, accepts the 2010 Community Service Award May 11 on behalf of her late husband, Doc Crawley from James Omdoll, left, and Paul Oehrke. Doc died August 25 of last year, before the committee was able to present him with the award.

of Veterinary Medicine and set up business in Palmyra in his four-car garage using one of those stalls as his office. His wife,

Olive, assisted him by answering the phone and relaying calls to his office.

See DOC CRAWLEY, Page 2

• Doc Crawley

(Continued from front page)

They had two sons while Doc was serving in the Air Force Reserves, and followed that up with another son and five daughters, all of whom graduated from Palmyra or Palmyra-Eagle High School and also graduated from college.

Everyone who knew Doc knows that he was a habitual storyteller and had a joke for every occasion. He said he had three goals in life: to be a veterinarian, to marry a beautiful woman and to raise a good family.

When accepting the award

on behalf of Doc, Olive spoke of the other two people selected and also reiterated how much her husband loved the community he lived in.

"Thank you to the committee who chose to honor Jack in the company of two great ladies — Betty Betenz and Lucille Schaefer Eilenfeldt. He loved Palmyra and the surrounding community and worked to maintain and improve our community.

It warms my heart to know that many others miss him as our family does," said Olive.

Who's in the News



Joan Holman Photo

Part of 1990 Quilt History Project

EAGLE — Olive Crawley of Palmyra is displaying the quilt made by her husband's aunt, Eleanor Wilton Crawley of Eagle, in the late 1930s. The quilt was one of the covers documented as part of the 1990 Quilt History Project. When completed many of the quilts researched will be part of a nationwide publication. The Old World Quilters was one group which assisted in Wisconsin's effort. Betty Lampsa, historian for the Old World Quilters, said that the design which Crawley chose is "The Carolina Lily."

People - Olive Crawley (Eleanor Wilton Crawley)
made quilt
1930-1940



HEATHER RUENZ/The Enterprise

Olive Crawley (center) donates copies of her late husband's book "Tails of a Cow Doc" to Cindy Holcomb (from left), of the Palmyra Historical Society; Kathy Hookham, of Powers Memorial Library in Palmyra; Elaine Ledrowski, of the Eagle Historical Society; and Alli Chase, of Alice Baker Library in Eagle. The book contains stories Doc recorded on his computer prior to his death. His family transcribed the stories and had the book published recently.

Doc Crawley's stories live on

Family publishes book as tribute to well-known veterinarian

By Heather Ruenz
EDITOR

"The book contains true stories that Doc experienced with family, friends and clients in his adult life," Olive Crawley said. "They're not in chronological order, just random things he thought might be of interest to others."

She is talking about the book, "Tails of a Cow Doc," by her late husband, John "Jack" Crawley, affectionately known as Doc Crawley.

He died in August 2010 of pulmonary fibrosis, but his stories – left on a voice recorder and transposed by family members – will live on in his book.

"We tried to leave as much of it as he left it so it's in his words. Some are very brief without much detail. Others are very detailed, just as he told them," Olive Crawley said. "Anyone you talk to who knew Doc will say he always had a story to tell."

She said Doc's initial reason for recording his stories was for his grandkids – all 16 of them, now ranging in age from 9 to 26. After his death, the family decided it would be a fitting tribute to publish his stories.

"He always had a good sense of humor and was a very caring person," Olive Crawley said. "He could always help people out of different situations, and as he got older it was very easy to get a hug from him."

Crawley said one day, she and Doc stopped for breakfast at a restaurant and it was clear the waitress was having a bad day. When they were finished with breakfast, Doc asked the waitress if he could give her a hug.

"She said it was just what she needed," Crawley said.

Doc enjoyed talking with people – or people enjoyed talking with him – so much that she said he'd have lengthy discussions with unexpected people.

"He'd get on the telephone with someone from AT&T or something and by the end of it, the two of them would have the nicest conversation," Crawley said.

When it came to his work though, Crawley said Doc was all business.

"He was very serious about it and would never cheat anyone," she said.

Doc's veterinary business was a family affair, Crawley said, with "most everyone helping in the office at one time or another, taking calls, helping with billing, and so on."

"Some of the older kids had coveralls and helped if he needed more strength on house calls to farms when dealing with the large animals," she said.

Doc was born in Ashland but raised in Eagle. While attending pre-veterinarian classes at the University of Wisconsin-Madison he met Olive, who was going to nursing school. After both of them graduated, Doc went to Iowa State University for his doctorate of veterinary medicine. About a year later, he and Olive were married.

He was a member of the ROTC and served in the U.S. Air Force followed by the Air Force Reserve and retiring with the rank of major.

In 1957, the Crawleys moved to Palmyra, where Doc practiced until a fire burned his office in 2004. In 2008, Doc and Olive moved to Fairhaven in Whitewater.

The Crawleys have eight children: Kevin, Kathleen, Ellen, Sara, Colleen, Dennis, Ann and Patrick.

Olive Crawley said when not working Doc enjoyed golf, they played a lot of cards with friends over the years, and spent nearly every weekend in the summer at their trailer in central Wisconsin.

The initial order of 30 books went quickly, Crawley said, but additional copies have been ordered.

"People who've read it will say, 'I can just hear him saying that.' I think he would be glad we followed through with it," she said.

"Tails of a Cow Doc" is available on lulu.com, amazon.com or through Olive Crawley.

To contact Olive Crawley, write her at 862 Burr Oak Trail, Whitewater, WI 53190.

