

Kenneth E. DeHaven

February 14, 1939 – June 20, 2021 (Revised 1/26/2022)



Ken is survived by **Jean**, his wife of 52 years, his daughter Kathleen DeHaven (Mike Renner), 8 year old granddaughter Josie, and by his brother Christopher DeHaven and his family. Their son David died in CO in 1996 at the age of 26.

Born February 14th 1939, a native of Dayton, OH, Ken graduated from Dartmouth College and captained the 1960 football team. Postgraduate education included Dartmouth Medical school, BMS Cum Laude 1963, Northwestern University Medical School, MD AOA, and a Cleveland Clinic Orthopedic residency, including extra training in Sports Medicine, and finishing in 1972.

Ken served as a medical officer in the US Navy in 1967-69. He began his career with McCollister Evarts and the Cleveland Clinic Orthopedic Department, moving to the University of Rochester in 1975, founding and chairing the division of Orthopedic Sports Medicine.

He served as team physician for HS, college and professional teams, taught residents and fellows, was involved in clinical research, wrote many scientific papers and textbooks chapters and gave numerous invited lectures nationally and abroad. He was one of the 1st to apply arthroscopy to Orthopedic Sports Medicine and was best recognized for his work on the meniscus and meniscus repair. He became Senior Assoc. Dean for Clinical Affairs at the U of R Medical Center and Director of the U of R Faculty Practice Group, fully retiring in 2013.

A leader in Sports Medicine and Orthopedic surgery. He was a past president of the Herodicus Society, the Arthroscopy Association of North America, the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine, the International Society of the Knee and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons.

After apprenticing with Rochesterian Ted Morse, repairing clocks, he completed the Clock Repair Program of The National Assoc. of Watch and Clock Collectors in Columbus, PA in 2009 and continued a hobby/career of repairing mechanical and antique pendulum clocks.

With a diagnoses of Alzheimers in 2017, Ken and Jean moved to the Denver, CO area to be near daughter Kathleen and family.

His love of Dartmouth, Football, Golf and Family were never ending!

Awards and leadership roles that Dr. DeHaven has received include:

- Member, AOSSM Research and Education, Program, Traveling Fellowship, Nominating, Hall of Fame, Council of Delegates Committees
- Treasurer, AOSSM (1984 -87)
- President. AOSSM (1991-92). Herodicus Society, Arthroscopy Association of North America. the International Society of the Knee (a parent society to ISAKOS) and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
- AOSSM Godfather ESSKA-AOSSM Traveling Fellowship (1990)
- AOSSM Mr. Sports Medicine Award (1997)
- AOSSM John C. Kennedy Memorial Lecturer (2003)
- Bay Area Knee Society Lifetime Achievement Award (2001)
- ISAKOS Honorary Membership (2005)

Note added August 27, 2021 from Jean and Kathleen DeHaven

We have appreciated the calls, notes and letters that have been received over the past months and recognize how respected and loved Ken, (Dad), (Vulch), (Dr. Kenneth DeHaven), was to his patients, colleagues, friends and family. Kathleen and I hope this video of photos with some of his favorite music will show a little of his love of life for you to enjoy. You also might consider having a Costco ice cream bar in his honor (his favorite).

PLEASE CLICK ON THIS LINK

to see his Celebration of Life. <https://youtu.be/8x-CFTTrB7RU>

Thank you for your love! —Jean and Kathleen DeHaven

If you wish to donate in his honor, you can give to: The U of R DeHaven Orthopaedic Endowment, 300 E. River Rd. PO. box 278996, Rochester, NY 14627-8996 or online: uofr.us/ortho and designate DeHaven Orthopaedic Endowment. (this fund provides training for residents and fellows in the DeHaven Skills Lab.)

The following comments were extracted from the Rochester Medicine 2021 Volume I Magazine and shared by Al Rozhcki in January 2022.

“Dr. DeHaven was an incredibly accomplished orthopaedic surgeon who made seminal contributions to our profession including basic science research and the development of new surgical techniques, and as president of the largest academic orthopaedic surgery society,” said Paul TR. Rubery, MD (Flw '94), chair and Marjorie Strong, Wehle Professor of Orthopaedics. “He did all of this with an energy, a humility, and a commitment that serve as an inspiration to all of us who follow him.”

DeHaven was a friend and colleague of Richard Burton, MD (Ros '64) emeritus Marjorie Strong Wehle Professor and chair, in Orthopaedics for 50 years. “He had the vision to see the potential of joint arthroscopy and the commitment and energy to make it a reality.” Burton

said.. “He was both a teacher and a learner in this respect: he traveled internationally as a pioneer to exchange ideas with others, and rapidly became the guru among his peers.”

The concept of sports medicine was just beginning to take shape while DeHaven was a surgical resident at the Cleveland Clinic. The then chair of Orthopaedic Surgery, McCollister “Mac” Evarts (’57, Res ’59, ‘Res 64) had just recruited H. Roger Collins (MD ’57) to create one of the first sports medicine programs in the country. Collins and DeHaven traveled to Toronto to learn from Robert Jackson, MD, who was pioneer in the use of arthroscopy to repair injuries.

At the time, most orthopaedic surgeons regarded arthroscopy as a passing fad; the technique was mostly used to observe and diagnose injury. But by inserting a second probe, DeHaven began to repair tears while sparing surrounding muscles and tissue. Because of the dearth of blood supply the opinion was that cartilage could not heal. DeHaven’s research proved the potential of the outer third of the meniscus to regenerate.

“It’s not an overstatement to say that his contributions to sports medicine and arthroscopy are immeasurable.” Said Michael Maloney MD, (Res ’97, FLW ’98) Dean’s Professor of Orthopaedics and Chief of Sports Medicine. “DeHaven’s studies of the meniscus and his efforts to develop and refine arthroscopic surgical techniques have saved many thousands of patients from needing a full knee replacement later in life.

”Despite being such a giant in his field, he was a humble and gracious man. He was always very patient, very willing to spend the extra time explaining things to young athletes and their families.” Maloney said.

When Evarts left Cleveland Clinic to head Orthopaedics at the University of Rochester, he recruited DeHaven to serve as its first Direct of Sports Medicine in 1975. In that era, the emerging specialty of sports medicine was gaining attention for its use by world class professional athletes. He made sure the highest level of care would be accessible in athletes and former athletes at the community level.

“He started working with high school coaches and trainers to develop sports medicine clinics where the kids could come see him and his associates.” Burton said. “This gradually evolved so that most of the high school teams in the Rochester area had a resident assigned to them and often an athletic trainer. It is a model the Sports Medicine Division employs to this day.”

“Ken DeHaven is a huge part of the tradition and history of Orthopaedics at Rochester, and we are all indebted to both en and his wife Jean for their tremendous commitment for our community, our department, and the University of Rochester,” Rubery said.

An orthopaedic surgical skills laboratory at URMC bears DeHaven’s name in recognition of his groundbreaking contributions to arthroscopy and his dedication in training future arthroscopic residents.

In response to Al Rozycki’s sharing the Rochester Medical Magazine article, “Paisan” Marrone ’61 wrote:

“Thanks for sending this on, Roz...as some of you know, his reputation was alive and thriving in Sweden, 2008...the surgeon who was going to replace my knees did both of them on the same day simply because I informed him Dr. Ken DeHaven had recently examined me at a Dartmouth reunion

and said, 'Paisan, just tell the surgeon to get them both done simultaneously...they're both severely trashed and your rehab time would be far too extensive if he did one at a time...' I remember smiling when Dr. Christopher Lundgren responded, saying, 'Do you really know Dr. DeHaven? I have been following his research for years,' to which I said, 'I sure do...'

I was the first, and perhaps the last, person to get double replacements at the same time in Sweden... all thanks to the 'Vulch'..."
